OSWESTRY & BORDER
CHRONICLE

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PANEL TO DECIDE EX-HEAD'S FATE

THE former head teacher of a Welshpool primary school faces being struck off if she is found guilty of a stream of misconduct charges by a hearing of the General Teaching Council for Wales.

Suzanne Foster, who resigned from Ysgol Maesydre in 2011, appeared before the council on Tuesday and Wednesday. She could be removed from the teaching register if allegations against her constituting serious professional misconduct or incompetence are proved.

Mrs Foster is accused of failing to follow Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) assessment for some members of staff; non-compliance with child protection requirements and not giving governors sufficient information about policies, standards and performance.

by Sue Austin

She is also accused of failing to implement strategies to deal with pupils' poor behaviour and failing to provide effective leadership and management to halt declining standards at the school.

The hearing heard that children who misbehaved were sent outside to sit alone in a "sin bin" in the playground in all weathers.

This was stopped by council officer, Wayne Williams, who was on a visit when he saw a young boy sitting at a table beside the fence, with no coat on, on a freezing February lunchtime.

School effectiveness officer Mr Williams removed the boy, later telling Mrs Foster the process bordered on abuse and ordering that it be stopped.

But Mrs Foster's counsel told the hearing that her position at the school had been undermined by her deputy Dewi Roberts and by the "draconian" attitude of the chairman of governors, Powys County Councillor Ann Holloway.

Mr Jamie MacCracken, for Mrs Foster said that the head teacher did not hide her views that the school was facing special measures.

"It was not that Mrs Foster wasn't telling people about the issues facing the school, she was not getting help from anyone until Mr Williams' involvement which was too late in the day," he said.

Mr McCracken said his client believed that the deputy head had set out to scupper the Estyn report.

And he said that there had also been an unwillingness for change from the governors' chairman.

"Councillor Holloway was described by one witness as a woman of her time, simply not prepared to countenance the changes to implement the policies and structures needed in modern day education," Mr McCracken said.

The committee has to decide whether the facts amount to unacceptable professional conduct or serious professional incompetence.

They have four options – reprimand, where Mrs Foster would remain able to teach but with a reprimand noted on the Register of Qualified Teachers for two years; a conditional registration order, where she would remain on the register but must comply with certain conditions; a suspension order, where she would be removed from the register for up to two years, then can re-register, or a prohibition order, where she could be banned from teaching.

The hearing continues.

● Sin bin – See Page 3

Petition calling for safety work at junction

A PETITION signed by more than 700 people calling for safety improvements to a junction on a main road between Oswestry and Welshpool has been handed to the Welsh Assembly.

Russell George, Montgomeryshire AM, met representatives from Llandrinio and Arddleen Community Council in Cardiff as they seek road safety improvements to the A483 Maerdy Road junction.

Members of the council have collected 740 signatures for a petition urging the Welsh Government to improve the safety of the junction by adding a central reservation and by installing street lighting.

The Montgomeryshire Assembly Member, who is a member of the National Assembly's petitions committee, met the chair of the community council, Councillor Brian Foulkes, as well as Councillor Stella Townsend and the clerk of the council Carol Davies, in the Senedd in Cardiff Bay, as they officially submitted their petition for formal examination.

Mr George said: "I know this junction well and I believe there are real safety concerns here. The committee has agreed to write to the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport seeking her views on this petition and I look forward to receiving that response."

Apple day to raise funds

AN APPLE pressing day will take place on Sunday at Treflach Farm near Oswestry to produce juice which will be sold to raise funds for garden projects around the town.

The first bottles of Incredible Edible Oswestry Apple Juice were produced at Treflach Farm last week and more juice-making will take place on Sunday from midday.

Volunteers of all ages are needed to help cut, mulch, press, bottle and pasteurise the fruit and the juice.

Tributes flooding in for 'Mr Welshpool'

Tegwyn Evans

TRIBUTES have been paid to a former mayor and president of the Football Association of Wales (FAW) who was known as "Mr Welshpool".

Tegwyn Evans, 85, was a former mayor and town councillor in Welshpool and was also president of Welshpool Town Football Club and chairman of the town's carnival committee.

He died on Tuesday in the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.

Mr Evans was known for his charity work and was well-known throughout the football world after being FAW president between 1997 and 2000. He was made a life president of the FAW and was awarded an MBE for his exceptional community service. He was a lifelong supporter and current president of Welshpool Town Football Club, and was also an official of the Central Wales FA and Montgomeryshire Football League.

Councillor John Meredith, current mayor of Welshpool, said Mr Evans was one of Welshpool's greatest residents.

He said: "I am very sad to hear of the death of Tegwyn Evans, he was a great member of our community and a gentleman. He did so much for the town as a past mayor, chair of the carnival committee to name just two.

"He was also much involved with Welshpool Town Football Club and the Welsh FA. My thoughts are with the family at this time."

An FAW spokesman said: "During his time at the FAW, he was a fine ambassador for the game at home and abroad. Everyone at the FAW salutes his service to football in Wales."

Glyn Davies, Montgomeryshire MP, added: "One of Montgomeryshire's great personalities over the last 50 years has died. Tegwyn Evans has been involved in the economic and public life of Welshpool for over half a century and he's been a great servant of Welsh football."

Bright sparks aid guide dogs

Charlotte Parry, left, and guide dog owner Lin Stapley with Woody the dog ready for the coffee morning.

GUIDE dog owner Lin Stapley and boarder Charlotte Parry are holding 'neon coffee mornings' in Oswestry to raise money for National Guide Dog Week.

The next coffee morning will be held in the Oswestry Market Hall Cafe from 10am-2pm tomorrow (Friday), and from 10am-1pm on Saturday.

The theme for the event is an "80s Glow Party", with colourful and crazy outfits welcome.

Event organiser Miss Parry, from Oswestry, looks after Shropshire guide dogs once they are one year old.

Miss Parry is herself partially sighted, and she often takes the guide dogs she looks after round Oswestry's shops. Part of her job is to get the guide dogs used to family, other pets and being around the house.

Mrs Stapley, from Oswestry, is chairman of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association's Oswestry Branch, which last year raised more than £18,500 for the charity.

10 before court over charges of disorder

TEN men have appeared in court in connection with a serious incident at a house party in Maesbrook.

The men appeared at Shrewsbury Crown Court on Monday to enter pleas after being charged with violent disorder in Maesbrook, between Oswestry and Welshpool, on December 14 last year.

Ryan Hywel Griffiths, 22; Thomas Alan Herbert, 21; Ashley Pedrini, 18, and Joshua Parry, 20, all from Welshpool, and Frankie John Jones, 18, of Halfway House, Shrewsbury, all admitted a charge of violent disorder when they appeared in front of Judge Peter Barrie on Monday.

Stafford Jones, 19, of Newtown; Hew Glyn Jones, 18, of Llanymynech; and Richard Spencer Rogers, 18; Huw Jones, 22, and Sam Williams, 19, all from Welshpool, all denied the charge.

Rogers also denied further charges of dangerous driving on the B4398 Maesbrook and of possessing an offensive weapon – a wooden axe handle.

Stafford Jones, Hew Jones, Huw Jones, Rogers and Williams will face trial on a date to be fixed.

Herbert was remanded in custody until his next hearing.

The other nine were granted conditional bail.

DJ to switch on fundraiser

BBC Radio Shropshire's James Bond has been chosen as the celebrity guest to switch on a festive fundraiser in Oswestry.

The Rotary Club of Oswestry has announced that the local radio personality has been invited to switch on its money-spinning Tree Of Light.

The switch-on of the Tree of Light will take place on November 30 at 5.30pm.

The Tree of Light, which sees people make donations in memory of loved ones or a special occasion, will once again be situated in Sainsbury's.

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CONTACT US

Editor: Caroline Jones
Tel: 01952 241416 E-mail: caroline.jones@shropshirestar.co.uk

Associate Editor: Graham Breeze
Tel: 01691 668094 E-mail: news@oswestrychronicle.co.uk

Sport: Alex James
Tel: 01691 668094 E-mail: sport@oswestrychronicle.co.uk

Oswestry photographic
Tel: 01691 668094 E-mail: news@oswestrychronicle.co.uk

Welshpool photographic
Tel: 01938 553319 E-mail: news@oswestrychronicle.co.uk

Advertising:

Advertisement Manager: David Lee-Birch
Tel: 01691 668090 E-mail: dlee-birch@shropshirestar.co.uk

Marcus Evans
Tel: 01691 668095 E-mail: marcus.evans@shropshirestar.co.uk

Christina Cookson
Tel: 01691 668089 E-mail: christina.cookson@shropshirestar.co.uk

Welshpool Advertising:

Beverley Thompson
Tel:01691 668092 E-mail: beverley.thompson@shropshirestar.co.uk

Distribution: Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319537 E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

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Covent Garden Fruit Market won the Mayor's Shield.

The Cambrian Works won a restoration award.

Civic society honouring the best that town has to offer

BUILDINGS ranging from a fruit and veg shop to a multi million pound residential home have been honoured by Oswestry Civic Society.

Praised for their architecture, their restoration or the contribution the buildings have made to the community they were given award at an annual ceremony held on Monday night at the Walls Restaurant.

The New Fairholme residential home which opened this year on the Shrewsbury Road on the edge of the town took the new build award for its design. The home was built to replace the original Fairholme on the Morda Road, now the sixth form of the adjacent, Marches School.

A restoration award went to the Cambrian Buildings, the former railway engineering shed on the Gobowen Road. Once housing railway locomotives under repair, when the town was at the centre of the Cambrian Railways the building is now the home for various organisations, including an antiques centre, and a health centre.

The recipient of the Mayor's Shield, selected and presented by the Mayor, Councillor Chris Schofield, for the shop that has made the biggest contribution to the high street in the last 12 months, was awarded to Covent Garden Fruit Market, English Walls.

Fruit and veg also feature in one of the community awards.

The Mary Hignett Award, in memory of the Oswestry naturalist and writer, was presented to Incredible Edible Oswestry for its work in the local community to promote the growing of fresh fruit and vegetables in public and community spaces.

by Graham Breeze

The Millicent Kaye award, in memory of another Oswestrian, was given to the Oswestry School Recital Series for its outstanding contribution the musical and choral programme they have promoted for the last 20 years under the guidance of Chris Symons.

Ceremony

More than 100 people attended the awards ceremony, including the Mayor and Mayoress Mr and Mrs Chris and Val Schofield, speaker and eminent local architect Mary De Saulles, award winners and members of the society.

Chairman of the Civic Society Saffron Rainey said: "The awards go from strength to strength and we are delighted to have this opportunity to recognize local projects and individuals who are making a great contribution to our build environment."

Edna Scott, events organiser for the Civic Society, said: "This has been one of our most popular events of recent years."

The New Fairholme residential home won the new build award.

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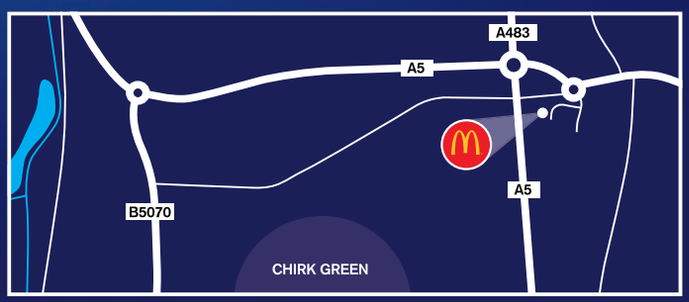

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Claims of lax safety measures are heard

CHILD protection was a problem at Ysgol Maesydre, the Professional Conduct and Competency hearing of the General Teaching Council for Wales heard.

Staff had not received child protection training for a number of years and a gardening club volunteer who had not had a Criminal Records Bureau check was found to have had a conviction for misappropriation of funds.

Suzanne Foster, the then head of Ysgol Maesydre, faces being struck off the teaching register if allegations against her constituting serious professional misconduct or incompetence are proved.

"Even when he was stopped from working at the school she allowed him to attend school to discuss gardening," school effectiveness officer, Mr Wayne Williams said.

"There was no signing in of visitors and no visitor badges.

"Visitors had to pass one classroom and the toilets to reach the secretary's office and, as the door was closed, could have simply walked straight past," he added.

Mr Williams said staff morale had been low.

"There was a poisonous relationship between the head and the deputy, who was negative and undermined her if he did not agree with her decisions.

"It created factions between the staff.

"Professional development training, a statutory requirement, was poor, with one teacher undertaking no such training for 10 years simply because he did not want any."

Officer found junior school boy in playground 'sin bin'

by Sue Austin

CHILDREN WHO misbehaved at a failing junior school were sent to a playground "sin bin" in all weathers, a professional conduct hearing has been told.

The draconian isolation was stopped by council officer, Wayne Williams, on a visit to Ysgol Maesydre in Welshpool when he saw a young boy sitting in the sin bin – a table beside the fence – in just his jumper on a freezing February lunchtime.

Suzanne Foster

School effectiveness officer, Mr Williams, removed the boy, said the process bordered on abuse, ordering that it stop or he would report the head teacher to the Children's Commissioner for Wales.

Giving evidence at a professional conduct and competency hearing of the General Teaching Council for Wales, Mr Williams spoke of a catalogue of problems that he came across at the school.

Suzanne Foster, who was then head teacher at the school, faces being struck off the teaching register if allegations against her of serious professional misconduct or incompetence are proved.

Allegations put to Mrs Foster include: Failing to follow Criminal Records Bureau assessment for some members of the staff; failing to comply with child protection requirements; failing to supply the governing body with sufficient information about policies, standards and performance; failing to advise the governing body about standards at the school, failing to implement strategies to deal with poor behaviour and failing to provide effective leadership and management at the school.

Mr Williams said that the school was put into special measures in May 2011. Mrs Foster resigned that December and the school was removed from special measures in January 2013.

Estyn Inspectors said that the visit before their report had been the most difficult inspection that they had conducted.

Suzanne Foster had been untruthful and deceitful, Mr Williams said.

Dire

"Staff and governors had not expected such a dire report as the head painted a very different picture." He said she blamed the poor standards on the pupils.

"It was put forward as 'what do you expect of pupils from this area'," he said.

Mr Williams told of how he stepped in to take a boy out of the sin bin, a table against a fence in the playground.

"He had no top coat, just a jumper and no-one was allowed to speak to him.

"When I told Mrs Foster that this draconian process must stop she said the staff would not be happy. I said it must cease as I considered it bordering on abuse."

The hearing continues.

My position was undermined, says ex-head

Suzanne Foster claimed her position as head teacher was undermined at Ysgol Maesydre in Welshpool.

FORMER Ysgol Maesydre head teacher Suzanne Foster claims her position was undermined by the chairman of governors and the deputy head.

Mr Jamie MacCracken counsel for Mrs Foster said she did not hide her views that the school was facing special measures.

"It was not that Mrs Foster wasn't telling people about the issues facing the school, she was not getting help from anyone until Mr Williams' involvement which was too late in the day."

Mr McCracken, said his client believed that the deputy head had set out to scupper the Estyn report.

And he said that there had also been an unwillingness for change from the chairman of governors, Councillor Ann Holloway.

"Councillor Holloway was described by one witness as a woman of her time simply not prepared to countenance the changes to implement the policies and structures needed in modern day education," Mr McCracken said.

He also suggested that the controversial 'sin bin' was something that was preferred by the deputy head and not Mrs Foster.

Speaking earlier in the hearing Mrs Foster said that, during her time as head-teacher at the school she was "undermined" by Dewi Roberts, the former deputy head-teacher.

"He made life difficult," she told the professional competence committee.

She also claimed it was difficult to express issues to the school's governing body because of the way Councillor Ann Holloway, the then chair of governors, ran the meetings.

"Miss Holloway's chairmanship was firm and robust and she dictated who was allowed to speak."

Councillor Ann Holloway

NEWS in brief

New festival will celebrate textiles

KNITTED knickers and tattooed mittens are two of the textile curiosities to be found at a new festival.

Textile festival Oswestry Makes begins this weekend and will bring together artists, craftspeople and folk who want to learn how to make things .

The first events of the week-long festival will be children's weaving at the Willow Gallery and a crochet class at Gemmipops Design in Powis Market on Saturday.

On October 17 from 6.30pm to 8pm there will be a textile taster evening in Oswestry Library. Visitors can have a go at spinning, silk painting, embroidery, knitting, and quilting. Entry is £3 a head.

For full details of events call (01691) 677388.

Parish vacancy after resignation

A VACANCY has arisen on Llanfyllin Town Council, following the resignation of Darren Mayor.

The vacancy can now be filled by co-option and interested local residents are invited to apply.

Letters of interest should be addressed to the Town Clerk at Llanfyllin Town Council Angela Vause, who would be able to supply further information.

The closing date for receipt of applications is October 31.

Mr Mayor resigned his post to focus on his role as Powys County Councillor for Llanwddyn.

Surgery offering flu vaccinations

CHIRK Surgery will be offering seasonal flu vaccinations on October 19, including a new nasal spray vaccine for young children.

The flu vaccine clinic will be held at the surgery in Castle Road in pre-booked appointment slots.

To make an appointment contact the surgery on (01691) 772434.

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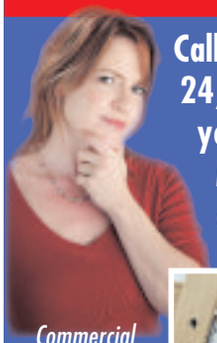

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NEWS 01691 668094

Man who attacked partner with piece of wood is jailed

A MAN who attacked his partner, punching her to the ground and striking her with a piece of wood so hard that it snapped has been jailed for 18 months.

Whilst on bail for the assault Andrew Hardy, 48, groped a teenager in Welshpool town centre.

Hardy, of Oldford Rise, admitted the assault, occasioning actual bodily harm, against his partner Catherine Lee, on December 27 last year.

He had been convicted after trial at Welshpool magistrates court of sexual assault.

He was placed on the sexual offenders register for seven years.

At Mold Crown Court on Friday, Mr Recorder John Philpotts, said: "You attacked your then partner with a piece of wood, striking her so hard that it snapped on impact.

"You grabbed her by the hair, pushed her,pursued her around the house, punched her to the face and knocked her to the ground.

"Her injuries are graphically depicted in the photographs I have seen.

"I hope you have seen them and feel thoroughly ashamed."

Prosecuting barrister Mr Michael Whitty said Miss Lee, Hardy's partner for two years, had been left injured and covered in blood after the attack at the flat they

by Graham Breeze

shared. She managed to escape to a neighbour's house.

Mr Whitty said while on bail Hardy approached a 19-year-old woman in Welshpool town centre, spoke to her and grabbed her breasts over her clothing.

"The incident happened in broad daylight.

"Hardy, who smelt of alcohol, told the frightened teenager he was 'a really spiritual man'."

Stress

Mr John Hedgecoe, for Hardy said his client had already spent 21 weeks in custody and suggested a suspended sentence so that he could receive assistance.

He had mental health problems which may have been exacerbated by long term cannabis use.

The defendant suffered considerable stress and was finding his first period of custody difficult.

Celebrity chef to open college restaurant

Celebrity chef Marcus Bean is visiting Oswestry next week.

CELEBRITY chef Marcus Bean will be visiting Oswestry later this month to open a new restaurant run by college students in the town.

The official opening of the Scholars Restaurant at Walford and North Shropshire College will take place on October 17 at 6.30pm with Marcus cutting the ribbon and tasting some of the recipes students will be serving.

Scholars will be run by students on the Professional Cookery Diploma course, who will work in every part of the restaurant to get a complete experience of the catering industry.

Chef lecturer, Dan Tompson said: "We have had a fantastic start to the new term. The first five weeks of the Professional Cookery Diploma course, have been fast paced with the group already completing initial food safety training and practical skills assessments.

"Guest speakers have included people from the hospitality and catering industry and students have already carried out an investigative visit to the Chester Grosvenor, Hotel and Spa.

"This 5 Star, 6 Rosette, establishment is recognised as one of the country's leading hotels and offered the students an opportunity to gain knowledge of setting and maintaining professional standards of customer service. The students have done very well and most achieved distinction grades for their work."

Mr Tompson added there has already been a high demand for bookings for the first week of business. Governors, staff and students from the college will be at the opening from 5.30pm to answer any questions people may have on the restaurant or courses available.

Some of the hospitality and catering students will also be attending the Oswestry Apple Day on October 19 to cook up treats.

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NEWS 01691 668094

Thieves warned they face jail term

TWO thieves who led police on a pursuit along the Powys/Shropshire border which forced a walker to leap into a hedge have been warned they face jail.

William Evans and Leon Roberts broke into six outbuildings in villages in Powys, stealing chainsaws, a motorcycle and leaf blowers before being chased by the police helicopter and a car.

The duo both appeared at Welshpool Magistrates Court on Tuesday, to be sentenced after admitting a range of charges relating at an earlier hearing.

But after deliberating for more than half an hour magistrates said their sentencing powers – up to six months custody – were not great enough for them to deal with the incident.

Clive Cooper, chairman of the bench, said: "You will appear at Mold Crown Court on October 31 because these offences are so serious that greater punishment is needed in this case."

Evans, 18, of Bryn Mally Park, Pentre Broughton, Wrexham and Roberts, 20, of Cherry Tree Drive, St Martins, near Oswestry had both admitted six charges of burglary between August 25 and 29. Roberts also admitted various driving offences involving a Ford Transit between Llanerfyl and Talerddig, near Welshpool on August 28.

Plea for bouncers at chip shop is rejected

A PLEA from police for an Oswestry chip shop to employ bouncers late at night to tackle troublemakers has been turned down despite licensing bosses being told the town had a "very high rate of violent crime".

by Graham Breeze

The plea was made by police after the Wots Cookin chippie on Willow Street applied for permission to serve food until 2am at weekends.

Police told a licensing meeting yesterday (Wednesday) the premises was in Oswestry's late night crime "hotspot".

Inspector Rik Klair presented figures to the meeting outlining the level of crime in the area.

Between January 2011 and January this year there were 395 incidents reported to police between 11pm and 5am at weekends.

A total of 202 of those incidents, 51 per cent of all the crimes, happened in Willow Street, he said.

Inspector Klair asked for a condition to be inserted into Wots Cookin's licence which would allow police to order the business to employ professional door staff should the new late hours lead to anti-social problems.

He said no Oswestry food outlet had the condition in their licence and at the moment police had to go "cap in hand" to ask them to use bouncers on a voluntary basis.

Inspector Klair said after taking over the responsibilty for policing in North Shropshire last year he was surprised to see how late Oswestry premises were allowed to operate.

He said: "Oswestry does have a vibrant night time economy but also has a very high rate of violent crime."

He said he would be making requests for the door staff condition to be inserted into other food outlets when their licences came up for consideration.

Keith and Carol Morris from Wots Cookin told yesterday's hearing they had to extend their closing time from 11pm to 2am for business reasons.

They said the move would safeguard the business and avoid redundancies.

Members of the licensing committee rejected the police's calls for the door staff condition but did ask for improved CCTV at the premises.

Strange fruit hogs limelight

Sue Stedman takes a look at the unusual fruit growing at The Cornerstone Baptist Church.

PASSERS-BY might think twice before reaching out to pick one of the delights growing in this garden in Oswestry.

That's because unusual vegetables shaped like small hedgehogs – equipped with their own spikes – are growing on some of the plants.

They are growing in community planters at the Incredible Edible garden at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Oswestry.

Even some of the project organisers admit to never having seen the achocha pepper-like food before.

Sue Stedman, who helped set up the garden, said: "I picked a few but I'd never seen or heard of them before. They're known as "fat babies" but I don't like the name – they look like little green hedgehogs to me.

"It was quite crispy, not a strong flavour, but I cooked it with a lot of other things so perhaps I need to try it again. The good news is we can save the seed.

"If anyone grows any unusual plants which would work well in pots, we can include them in next year's planting."

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Free fire safety check for farmers

FARMERS in Mid Wales are being urged to take up a free farm safety check following a serious barn fire in the area.

Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service said it spent 67 hours at the fire which destroyed a barn at a farm near to Maerdy Lane, Arddleen, last week.

It said between January and October this year it has attended 24 serious fires at farms in its area, which spans from Powys through Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire and Swansea.

Steve Rowlands, community safety manager for north Powys, said he wants farmers to take advantage of the free fire safety checks the service offers.

He said: "On September 30, appliances from Welshpool, Llanfyllin, Montgomery, Llanfair Caereinion and Newtown attended a farm fire in north Powys which severely damaged three farm buildings. The size and ferocity of the fire was so intense that all contents were destroyed and crews had to be in attendance for a total of 67 hours.

He added: "We urge farmers to take up the free fire prevention advice provided by the fire service."

For further advice and a farm safety check call the service on 0800 169 1234.

Exhibition gives first look at 33-mile power line route

RESIDENTS along the route of a controversial 33-mile power line proposed to link wind farms in Mid Wales to the national power supply in Shropshire have had their first chance to see the plans.

National Grid, which is behind the Mid Wales Connection Project, held the first of a series of public drop-in events in Llanfair Caereinion yesterday, with company representatives on hand to answer questions.

The 400kv line will run from a substation near Cefn Coch, Llanfair Caereinion and include eight miles of underground cables through the Meifod Valley near Oswestry.

by Graham Breeze

In other areas, National Grid is proposing overhead lines and will be considering the new T-pylon, which is about 15 metres shorter than the usual steel lattice pylons.

Chris Isaac, the National Grid's external affairs manager, said the drop-in sessions, which will continue for about five weeks, are a great chance for people to make their views heard.

He said: "This is the chance for people to come along, view the plans, ask questions or tell us what they think.

Underground

"We recently announced that a quarter of the route will go underground through the Meifod Valley and that was a result of us appreciating the beautiful landscape and heritage of the area and also from us listening to public opinion at the last set of consultation events.

"Now we want to know what people think of the plans now. So far, the reaction her in Llanfair has been interesting and varied and we look forward to seeing people come along and viewing the proposals."

If the windfarms are given planning permission when a continuing public inquiry ends, the line will run to the north of Llanfair Caereinion before being buried under the ground as it travels through the Meifod Valley, emerging close to Llansantffraid before turning west to cross the A483 trunk road between Four Crosses and Llanymynech on the Shropshire border.

Cycle helps to raise £1,000

FUNDRAISERS who took part in a sponsored cycle around a beauty spot in Mid Wales say they hope their efforts will have raised up to £1,000 to help disabled children in Africa.

A total of 25 riders took part in the event at Lake Vyrnwy, hosted by Disability in Wales and Africa. Among the riders was Mark Williams, MP for Ceredigion, and co-chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Global Education. The money raised will go towards projects which support getting disabled children in Africa to school.

A variety of bikes, tandems and even a tricycle were used by the fundraisers.

The tandem, and single person, tricycle were supplied by Powys County Council with help from Disability Sports Wales, and attracted a great deal of interest.

Mr Williams said he was pleased to see this awareness and fundraising event, supporting a very often forgotten aspect of international development.

Food centre opens at college

Mayor Chris Schofield watches student Tamara Hijaz filling a chutney jar.

A NEW food centre has opened at Derwen College near Oswestry as part of a £1 million project.

Bradbury's Food Centre will be a training restaurant for catering and food service students and will also be available to hire for private functions and events.

The investment has also seen the development of new student residences.

The formal opening of the centre was carried out by Oswestry town mayor Chris Schofield.

North Shropshire MP and environment secretary Owen Paterson had been due to perform the opening but had been called away on last minute business. Cllr Schofield said he was delighted to fill in.

The mayor said fundraising towards the cost of the new developments had now topped £500,000 from various grant making organisations including the Bradbury Foundation and the St James's Place Foundation and local groups including the Friends of the Derwen.

NEWS in brief

Quiz and supper for primary school

A CHARITY quiz and supper will be held on October 25 in aid of Llangedwyn Church in Wales primary school.

The quiz will start at 7.30pm at Llangedwyn Village Hall, and will cost £10 per team of up to five people. Entry includes a ploughmans supper and there will be a pay bar open on the night. There will also be a prize raffle.

If the night is successful it could lead to a regular weekly quiz night.

To book teams in advance contact Pat Burns on (01691) 791811 or 780454.

Meeting date for parish councillors

ST Martins Parish Council will hold its next meeting tonight (Thursday) at the St Martins Centre in the village, near Oswestry.

Residents are welcome to attend and there will be a chance to ask questions before the agenda items are discussed.

The meeting will start at 7pm.

Craft show at memorial hall

AN ART, craft and gift show will take place on October 26 at Oswestry Memorial Hall.

Now in its fifth year, the event runs from 9am to 5pm with free entry.

The show offers a wide selection of handmade gifts and craftwork.

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NEWS

01691 668094

School 'winning the battle to improve Ofsted rating'

GOVERNMENT inspectors say staff and governors at Gobowen Primary School are taking incisive and urgent action to improve standards and its Ofsted rating.

The school was said to require improvement following an inspection in May. After the first monitoring meeting last month the school has been praised for improvements with a report from the visiting inspector saying that the work was building strongly on improvements started by the deputy headteacher, Carol Jones, at the end of last term.

"Senior leaders and governors are taking incisive and urgent action to tackle the areas requiring improvement."

by Sue Austin

The inspector said: "Staff, governors and many parents report that the improvements made in such a short time have transformed the school."

He added that the school's plan for improvement accurately identified how areas for improvement would be addressed.

Lucy Luke, acting headteacher at Gobowen Primary School said: "The school is quite rightly focused on ensuring that the quality of teaching and learning is consistently good or better and this is highlighted as a target in the new report.

Inspection

"A further priority at this point is ensuring that our Early Years Foundation stage is a 'stimulating, exciting and enjoyable' environment.

" We are already looking at ways in which the Foundation stage classroom can be redeveloped to meet this, and are excited at the prospect of change."

Councillor Ann Hartley, Shropshire Council's Cabinet member for children's services, added: "We are working with the school to, as the report outlines, ensure it has effective leadership and management, to support the development and implementation of the action plan and the continuing improvement of the school.

"This report shows the school is making good progress and is on the right path to excel in its next inspection."

Ghostly goings-on for castle visitors

THERE will be ghostly goings-on at Chirk Castle this Halloween.

From 11am to 4pm on October 31 the Haunted Happenings event will give young visitors the chance to hear spooky stories and take part in a ghost hunt.

Normal admission charges will apply, but children in spooky costumes will receive free entry.

Later there will be a Castle of Mysteries tour when visitors will hear about the myths and legends that surround the ancient walls.

The interactive tour will start at 7pm and explore the medieval castle, gardens, Adam tower and dungeons.

Torches and suitable footwear are recommended.

The tour is suitable for those aged 15 or over and is suitable for groups.

Tickets cost £10 each and booking is essential.

For more information or to book a place on the tour contact the castle on (01691) 777701.

Group meeting

OSWESTRY Writing Lab will hold its next meeting on Tuesday. It will take place between 7pm to 9pm at the Griffin, Albion Hill, Oswestry, in the Snug. OWL meets every second Tuesday to share and discuss members' work.

Church events are a success

MORE than 500 people have attended events such as wine tastings and open mic nights over the past two years as part of an initiative set up in Oswestry, organisers have revealed.

Those behind PurpleFish made the claim after the scheme reached its second anniversary. It was set up by members of Hope Church in 2011 and holds several events, activities or courses each month.

Two new courses started with a weight loss course on Wednesday and an Alpha course due to begin on Thursday.

Church leader Derek Hughes said the initiative was set up to provide events for the wider community who might not consider going to events organised by a church.

Many of the events are fundraisers, and next year PurpleFish will be sending a group to tackle the 3 Peaks Challenge.

For more information on upcoming events visit **www.purplefish.org.uk** or call on 07964 726407.

Tea party group marks first year

Chris Mason with tea and cakes at the Christian Centre in Oswestry.

A TEA party group which started out as a one-off event for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee has celebrated its first anniversary.

The Cameo group now meets weekly at the Whole Life Christian Centre in Cabin Lane, Oswestry, and regularly attracts more than 30 people.

Group organiser Chris Mason, who helped set up the group after its successful first meeting, said she was amazed by its success which she said had come about through word of mouth.

"It is a sort of over-60s tea party and chat I suppose," she said. "Mainly it's somewhere to come and enjoy company. Originally it came out of us doing one for the jubilee last year, and following that a number of people who had come said they would like to have another one. A couple of us thought it was a good idea so we were told to put it on paper and eventually church elders gave us the go-ahead.

"The name was suggested by one of the members – it stands for Come And Meet Each Other," she added.

Fairtrade produce available from fair

FAIRTRADE produce will be taking pride of place in Oswestry at the town's autumn fair on Saturday.

The Fairtrade Autumn Fair will be held in St Oswald's Parish Centre, Church Street, showcasing local and fairtrade produce and crafts with stalls from Oswestry Christian Bookshop, The Gates gift shop, Rowanthorn, Buttons For Africa and others.

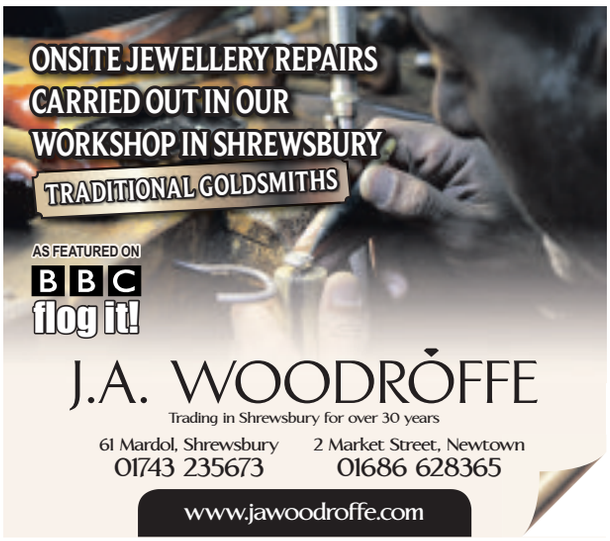
Wendy Unwin, from The Gates, said: "With National Chocolate Week, One World Week, National Nut Day and United Nations Day all taking place this October, the fair is the perfect opportunity to find out more about local produce and fairly traded products sold in town.

"There are lots of places in Oswestry to enjoy a Fairtrade brew or pick up fairly traded gift or treat, many of which will be available to buy at the event."

The fair will run from 10am to 1pm. Call (01691) 680203 for more details.

Alpha course

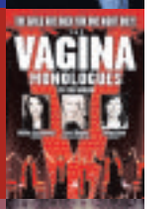
AN Alpha course will be starting in a coffee shop in Oswestry today (Thursday). The free nine-week course will run from 7-9pm each Thursday until December 5 in Milanos Coffee Shop. For more information call 07964 726407.



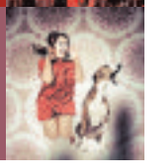
HAfREN UPCOMING EVENTS AUTUMN 2013

ROBIN INCE
Friday 18th October - 7:45pm
Award-winning comedian and science enthusiast Robin Ince explains why we have eyebrows, why bald dogs have bad teeth and how heavy metal music makes pigs deaf. Tickets £12 | Children £9

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES
Saturday 19th October - 8:00pm
Holly Jay-Bowes & Terri Dwyer (Hollyoaks) and Diane Keen (Doctors) star in this hilarious Broadway and West End smash hit production. Tickets £17.50



LUCY PORTER
Saturday 16th November - 8:00pm
Familiar from Never Mind the Buzzcocks, Mock the Week and The Unbelievable Truth, Lucy returns to the UK comedy circuit with her best show yet. Tickets £10



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COMMENT

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Tributes for 'Mr Welshpool' flood in from across the globe

THE death this week of Tegwyn Evans MBE – the man known everywhere as "Mr Welshpool" – has brought tributes pouring in from all parts of the world.

And it's hardly surprising because Mr Evans had a massive and extremely popular public image through his work in the community and his love of football.

From a very early age he followed his father, Lloydy Evans', passion for the sport and spent a lifetime working to ensure the wellbeing of Welshpool Town Football Club, often at great personal expense.

And from humble beginnings he went on to serve his country as an ambassador for Welsh football thanks to his high rankings at the Welsh Football Association. He served as an FA councillor, treasurer and until a few years ago headed the organisation as president.

He travelled the world, standing shoulder-to-shoulder with the biggest names in international football administration,

BREEZE ABOUT TOWN
with Graham Breeze

proudly representing Wales and Welshpool. But despite such high office he never forgot his roots and stayed totally committed to local football in senior capacities on the Central Wales Football Association and with the Montgomeryshire Amateur Football League.

And he was most at home watching his beloved Welshpool play, supporting and backing the club through thick and thin.

Away from sport Mr Evans served his town as a councillor and a mayor and a relentless charity worker. He fought passionately to keep the carnival alive, and was easily the town's most popular person, with a friendly word, a traditional handshake and a smile for everyone he met.

Welshpool has lost its most loyal servant.

Tegwyn Evans may have been small in stature but he was a giant of a man.

❑❑❑❑❑

A PETITION signed by 740 people calling for safety improvements to a junction on a main road between Oswestry and Welshpool has been handed to the Welsh Assembly.

Russell George, Montgomeryshire AM, met representatives from Llandrinio and Arddleen Community Council in Cardiff as they seek road safety improvements to the A483 Maerdy Road junction.

Members of the council have collected 740 signatures for a petition urging the Welsh Government to improve the safety of the junction by adding a central reservation and by the installation of street lighting. I know from personal experience the dangers at this juncture.

I once needed to be cut free from a vehicle and hospitalised after being run into while stationary there. The sooner improvements are made the better.

❑❑❑❑❑

THE THING that really wound me up this week was an incident with a shopping trolley.

I witnessed two women take a trolley from a supermarket, push it away into a nearby shop's car park and then abandon the trolley after removing their shopping before strolling off into the distance.

The couple left the trolley to be blown aimlessly across the car park with parked vehicles at risk as it picked up speed, narrowly missing my own beloved motor.

What makes these people think this type of behaviour is OK? Do they have any respect for other people's property?

Brewery is on the up as it moves to new premises

by Sue Austin

WHEN Australian Shane Parr move to Britain to live, he fell in love with the country's cask ales and decided to try to brew his own.

He had been interested in brewing since a teenager.

Today, six years after he opened his first microbrewery in Oswestry, Shane, along with his wife, Alison, and other family members, run the award-winning Stonehouse Brewery, which has just moved into purpose built new headquarters.

Now known as a small, rather than a micro brewery, Stonehouse bitter is gaining popularity, not only in Shropshire but further afield.

This summer the brewery enjoyed national exposure when Punch Taverns took the beers on a seasonal contract. It is the latest coup for the business with very small beginnings.

Quality

Stonehouse began life with Shane brewing beer in redundant chicken sheds at Weston, near Oswestry.

Alison said: "The emphasis has always been on quality and using quality ingredients."

"We could use cheaper ingredients to cut costs but Stonehouse prides itself on consistent quality.

"Our beers are brewed by hand, using the finest floor malted barley and carefully selected hops."

Stonehouse brews six beers, the best known being its Station Bitter, which won the national champion, SIBA best bitter gold award for 2013.

There are also the Cambrian Gold, Off the Rails, and Wheeltappers Wheat Beer, all named because the brewery stands next to the old Cambrian Railway, Sunlander, with hops from Australia, and Kingsland Flyer

Alison Parr checking casks. *Pictures: Peter Flemmich.*

Carl Ellis washing casks.

which uses New Zealand hops. "We are thinking about brewing a special Christmas ale. A white Christmas beer, unlike the usual dark festive ales," Alison added.

The beer is available in bottles or in 10 or 20 litre 'polypins' and can also be bought by the barrel for parties and special occasions.

Growth for Stonehouse has deliberately been slow and steady.

Shane and Alison began with Alison's father, Ian Reid, and brother, Innes.

"My father is the engineer," she said.

"He was able to build much of the brewing equipment so that in the beginning we didn't have to buy expensive new equipment. Innes is a drayman."

Today Stonehouse provides employment for 10 people and brews 100 barrels a week. And it has also just moved into the new, purpose-built, brewery next to those old chicken sheds – those are now used for storage.

Grants from the Shropshire Market Town's Revitalisation Programme and the Shropshire and Herefordshire business enterprise scheme have helped towards the new brewery.

"The new building is wonderful," Alison said.

"It is bright and airy and we no longer have to apologise to visitors but we are eager to welcome them in and show them around."

The brewery now includes a visitor centre and shop and the company has just begun to run special tours.

Said Alison: "We are very proud of our beer and now we are very proud of our brewery and keen to invite people to join our tours."

In the future the restoration of the Cambrian Railways line from Oswestry to Weston could bring a difference dimension to the brewery tours with visitors able to arrive by train.

The Stonehouse Brewery Visitor Cenre and shop is open Monday to Friday, 9am until 5pm and Saturdays, 10am until 2pm.

To book a tour or for more information, call 01691 676457.

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THE IMPORTANCE OF CATERING FOR 'WHAT-IF' SCENARIOS IN A WILL

Q: My cousin and her sister took responsibility for their childless widowed aunt after she got dementia. They applied for and got power of attorney to look after her financial interests and take care of her physical needs. Eventually she had to go into a nursing home, but as she was still physically very able and could have lived many years longer than the two years she did live, they sold her house and invested the proceeds to provide an income to pay for her care.

When the aunt died it transpired she had left her house to her two nieces in her Will, and the residue of her estate to their three children. However, because the nieces had sold the house, everything passed directly to their children on her death and they got nothing - which is of course not at all what the aunt had intended. Is there anything they can do about this?

A: Unfortunately not and this sad story highlights the importance of people getting sound legal advice when they draw up a Will - and advice that caters as far as possible for 'what-if' scenarios which may occur between the time of writing the Will and the time of their death.

In this day and age people are living longer and more and more are living out their final days in a care or nursing home. In some instances people are entitled to claim the cost of the care back from the local authority, irrespective of their means, though making a successful application for such a claim nearly always requires input from a solicitor. But any solicitor who is doing their job properly when writing a Will for a client should check and re-check that the client has considered the 'what-ifs' that could affect their final wishes being carried out.

Further information relating to this question is available from Victoria Wilson, a Senior Solicitor with GHP Legal. For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194, visit www.ghplegal.co.uk. For Personal Injury, Employment and Family matters we offer a FREE legal diagnostic clinic every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation

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LETTERS

01691 668094

Concern over the findings on loans

THE new findings on payday loans released by Christians Against Poverty are deeply concerning.

They highlight the desperate lengths that people are going to in order to pay their soaring bills, feed their families and keep a roof over their heads.

It is particularly worrying that many of the payday loan companies do not check that individuals have sufficient income to pay them back.

With 80 per cent of people taking out more than one loan to repay existing borrowing, coupled with interest rates as high as 4,000 per cent, it is all too easy for people to end up trapped in a spiral of debt that is difficult to escape.

We know through our own research that many people on low incomes are just not aware of the welfare benefits or charitable funds available to them.

We found that almost half (48 per cent) of people who were unemployed and had taken out a payday loan had never checked their welfare benefits eligibility.

Yet benefits and charitable funds exist to help those experiencing financial hardship – something that could happen to anyone one of us at any time due to illness, job loss, family breakdown and other unexpected circumstances.

We would urge anyone who is struggling to consider all their options.

They can use our free website tools at **www.turn2us.org.uk** to check their entitlements to benefits and tax credits, and see if they are eligible for one of 3,000 charitable grants, which could make all the difference to their situation.

ALISON TAYLOR
Director, Turn2us
200 Shepherds Bush Road
London W6 7NL

Time for action not just words

NEWS outlets will doubtless soon wheel out representatives of mosques in the UK who will solemnly announce that the atrocity at Westgate Mall in Nairobi was despicable and the work of extremists acting contrary to the teachings of the Koran.

What we must now ask of the wise men is that they add action to their words.

PETER J. H. SHARMAN, Arddleen

Staff helped restore my faith

I HAVE cancer and am about to begin yet another course of chemotherapy.

I have been told by my consultant that it will definitely cause my hair to fall out.

Being the type of person that I am, I decided I was not going to wait for it to fall out in clumps or to settle for the Rab C. Nesbitt comb-over, so chose to get myself to a barber and get it removed.

I have an 18-month-old daughter, so wanted to get it done while she was around so the end result would not scare her.

With this in mind I went to the barber and was told it's £8.50 for a cut and that's all I do, so go somewhere else. Nice sentiment.

I was walking up the main road by the traffic lights in town and my partner saw Cappelli's barber's shop across the road.

She left me with the pushchair and went and asked if they could help. The man in there said he would do it for £5 and could do it there and then.

I went in, sat in the chair and as most people do had a conversation, as he was shaving my head as low as he could – not able to shave with a blade for health and safety reasons, and so used clippers.

This was low enough for me to use a razor when I got home.

As I got up and was ready to pay, he very kindly told me there was no charge.

I cannot commend the staff at Cappelli's enough, they have restored my faith in the people in Oswestry and feel that this missive is the least I can do to show my appreciation.

ROBERT BRIDGES
Oswestry

Ifton Heath postcard franked in 1907

THIS postcard showing "Ifton Heath East" was franked at St Martins on May 23, 1907, and was posted to Miss Flo Gittins, who was staying at Glenthorne Village, Royton, near Oldham. According to the message on the back, the house on the right is "Lily's home". ***Picture: Ray Farlow.***

Guessing speeds on roads can be fatal

LIZ Allen, of Welshpool, (letters, October 4) is correct in her support and defence of motorcyclists. They, like cyclists and pedestrians, are the usual victims of the careless car, van and lorry drivers but her letter omitted one important fact.

A large percentage of accidents involving motorcyclists, fatal and otherwise, occur at junctions when the motorcyclist is approaching a junction where a vehicle is waiting to join or to cross the main road.

One of the most difficult aspects of driving is calculating the speed of vehicles coming toward you.

The problem is compounded by speed and size of the approaching vehicle; a motorcycle 1,000 yards up the road travelling at 60mph is upon you in seconds.

There is no doubt that it is a major problem and the older a driver gets the more difficult it becomes.

At any junction, ignore the traffic behind you and wait for a clear road. Guesswork can be fatal.

BOB WYDELL
Oswestry

Thanks for helping as befrienders

CHUMS Befriending Service is grateful to the readers of the Shropshire Star for their support and enthusiastic response to our relaunch.

We have met many of you at our promotional events – Shrewsbury, Oswestry or Whitchurch markets, and Stans Superstore, and are delighted to report that we have already recruited some lovely volunteers who will be matched to clients.

Look out for our display in Oswestry Library celebrating World Mental Health Day; we will be there until Friday.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer for us or would like to have a weekly visit please call (01691) 658008 .

CONNIE CULLIFORD
CHUMS
Oswestry

LETTERS to the Editor

POST	FAX	E-MAIL
Readers' Letters, Oswestry Chronicle, Ketley, Telford TF1 5HU	01952 254605	letters@oswestrychronicle.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters

Take steps to help animals in winter

AS COLD weather approaches, we should be aware that wild animals may search for warmth and sustenance within our homes. If they can get easy access and find sufficient food for the winter months, who could blame them?

Animal Aid would encourage people who do find a squirrel in their attic or a mouse in their kitchen not to panic and call in 'pest' controllers. The traps and poisons they use can cause agony to animals and do nothing to solve the underlying reasons why that animal moved in.

Instead, we ask people who have an unwanted house guest to take a few practical steps to encourage that animal to move on. To that end, Animal Aid has produced a series of free fact sheets. Please contact **info@animalaid.org.uk** or call (01732) 364546. State if there is a specific species you require information about.

KATE FOWLER, Animal Aid

Seeking to reunite old RAF pals

I LIVE on part of a former World War II/early Cold War radar base in West Beckham in Norfolk.

I have so far managed to track down 14 former World War II WAAFs who served here and around 35 1950s airmen and a couple of officers.

I have managed to put WAAFs back in touch who lost touch with each other in 1945, and the same with airmen who have not seen each other since 1955, in one case a gentleman and his best man.

I would like to talk to any ex-personnel who served at RAF West Beckham or family members.

I can be contacted on (01263) 824069 or e-mail: **miked3038@hotmail.com**

MIKE DIGBY
Norfolk

Appeal for people to raise cash

I AM writing to encourage readers to take part in ITV This Morning's 'Take a Moment' campaign which is helping raise money for this year's Text Santa fundraising drive.

As part of its 25th anniversary, This Morning is aiming to get 50,000 acts of kindness pledged and for each one, the government will donate £5 to Text Santa. ITV's Text Santa annual charity fundraiser is an entertainment extravaganza, which will air on prime-time TV in December, with a range of fundraising and awareness raising activity in the run-up to the show. The pledges can be as simple as sponsoring a friend to do a charity challenge.

To pledge your act of kindness, please visit www.itv.com/thismorning-take-a-moment. All pledges must be registered by the end of October.

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April case detectives honoured by police

DETECTIVES who investigated the disappearance and murder of April Jones have been honoured with a policing award.

Dyfed-Powys Police has been given the Policing Excellence Award at the Police Federation National Detectives Forum in Manchester.

The award was given to all those involved in Operation Tempest – the name of the investigation – and included more than 100 detectives, specialist police officers and staff from across the country who aided what ended up being the biggest search in UK police history. The investigation was lead by Detective Superintendent Andy John.

Five-year-old April was abducted from the Bryn y Gog estate in Machynlleth on October 1 last year by Mark Bridger, 47, who has been jailed for life for killing her in a sexually motivated attack. Her body has never been found.

Meeting date

THE next meeting of Welshpool & District University of the Third Age will be held on November 5. The meeting will be held at Church House in Church Street, Welshpool, at 10.30am and doors will open at 9.45am. Call (01686) 668024.

Funding plans to signpost tourists to area attractions

FUNDING will be made available to help tourist attractions put up brown and white road signs in the Welshpool area to attract more visitors.

The Welsh Assembly said it will offer funding of up to 50 per cent or £25,000 for signing schemes which meet Visit Wales' criteria which for the first time includes golf courses and seasonal attractions.

Rebecca Evans, Mid & West Wales AM, said: "The new guidance was developed following a public consultation exercise for tourist signs on motorway and trunk roads and will make the application process and cost implications clearer to both the public and businesses.

by Graham Breeze

"Partial grant funding for tourist traffic signs is also now available through the Tourism Investment Support Scheme.

"For too long the application process and the complexity of fees involved have prevented tourist destinations from reaping the benefits of tourist destination signs. This new guidance will make the whole process much more straightforward."

Seasonal

He added: "More businesses are now likely to be eligible for a tourist traffic sign as the guidelines take a more favourable account of visitor numbers and distance from the trunk road, as well as taking account of seasonal variance in visitor numbers in the eligibility calculation.

"For the first time there will be an opportunity for destinations that open on a seasonal basis to apply for tourist signing and golf courses will also be considered as a tourism attraction under the new guidelines."

Edwina Hart, minister for the economy, science and transport, added: "Tourism infrastructure, such as tourist traffic signs play an important part in a visitor's experience. They can make a difference between a satisfied or alienated visitor and are an example of how we can work together to build successful tourism destinations."

Drivers warned on crackdown

DRIVERS in the Welshpool area have been warned that police are holding a two-week crackdown on people using mobile phones while driving.

Dyfed-Powys Police said it will be handing out £100 fines and three penalty points to anyone caught using their phones while behind the wheel during the October patrols.

The force said the campaign will run from October 15 to 31 and will see officers specifically looking out for people flouting the law.

During last year's campaign 1,000 motorists across Wales were caught using their phone while driving.

Assistant Chief Constable Richard Lewis, of South Wales Police, which is leading the campaign, said: "Police patrol will increase across Welsh roads for the duration of the enforcement campaign to promote the safety message and raise awareness of the dangers and penalties among motorists."

Royal gifts on show at museum

Eva Bredsdorff takes a look at the new exhibition at Powys Land Museum.

GIFTS presented to the royal family during tours and visits have gone on show at a Welshpool museum.

Artwork from the Royal Collection is being displayed at Powysland Museum as part of a celebration of royal visits to Wales, dating back to Queen Victoria's reign.

Museum curator Eva Bredsdorff said: "The Royal Family carry out numerous visits throughout the year and this is a tradition that has gone on for generations.

"We are most grateful to Her Majesty The Queen for generously lending works from the Royal Collection, and to the staff at Royal Collection Trust for their help and support."

She added: "Other museums, organisations and individuals have also lent items, including The Royal Mint, Cardiff Story Museum and Torfaen Museum Trust. The exhibition will run until the end of the year.

The museum, at the Canal Wharf, is open weekdays except Wednesdays from 11am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm, and on Saturdays from 11am to 2pm.

NEWS in brief

Club set to start autumn activities

THE Marches Young Archaeologists' Club will start its autumn programme on Sunday looking at the hunter/gatherers of the Stone Age.

Part of a nationwide network of branches and run entirely by volunteers, Marches YAC is a club for 8-16 year old archaeology enthusiasts from the Montgomeryshire/Shropshire border area.

The club is based in Trewern, near Welshpool, and meets once a month.

Visit **www.marchesyac.blogspot.co.uk** for more information.

Quartet to stage show at church

WELSHPOOL Music Club's first concert of its 71st season will be given by the Benyounes String Quartet on Thursday at 7.30pm, at Welshpool Methodist Church.

The quartet recently made its debut at the Wigmore Hall and will be playing quartets by Schubert, Britten and Dvorak.

Season tickets for five concerts are £30 (or £8 entry for a single concert).

Ladies night out

THE ladies of Welshpool Rugby Club are holding their big night out on October 18.Tickets costing £10 from Sarah Williams (07837 351626). Doors open at 7pm and it's strictly over 18s.

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Competition addict Kim is making her own luck

Kim Searle has won a staggering £100,000 in prizes after entering 100 competitions a day for more than 20 years.

KIM Searle is a firm believer in the old saying that you make your own luck – although it certainly takes some dedication.

by Graham Breeze

Mrs Searle, of Welshpool, has won more than £100,000 worth of prizes, including to Australia, Hawaii and Venice to flat screen TVs, games consoles and gadgets.

The 50-year-old bookseller says she is addicted to winning and enters up to 100 contests a day. Mrs Searle said the craze began when she entered a local newspaper competition to win a microwave back in 1989 and she has even had to move house to accommodate her winning haul.

She said she has won most of her bedroom furniture and her kitchen is also full of her winnings – from the toaster and coffee maker to the cutlery she won 20 years ago.

Just last week she won a mop and bucket, a dustpan and brush and a set of hand luggage.

Mrs Searle says she is now addicted and has even started entering contests with prizes she doesn't want or need.

She has won so much that husband Dave, 50, sold their cottage to move to a bigger house.

Mrs Searle has also started selling prizes on auction site eBay to free up storage space. "It completely takes over your life and becomes part of your daily routine," she said.

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NEWS

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Firms give free help to create your will

LAW firms will be offering free appointments to draw up wills during October as part of Free Will Month.

Among the firms signed up to the initiative is GHP Legal, which has an office in Oswestry.

Senior solicitor Victoria Wilson said: "More than 30 million people in the UK do not have a will. For many it is because they consider the cost of having a solicitor draw up a will prohibitive. However, without a will your assets pass under intestacy when you die. This means the law determines who will inherit your assets – and even if you are married this will not necessarily be your surviving spouse.

"For those who already have a will, this month's focus on wills could serve as a reminder that you probably need to review it, especially if the law or your circumstances have changed since it was written. This is particularly important if you change your name or marriage/partnership status, move home, dispose of assets or property mentioned in your will, or if an executor or beneficiary dies."

During Free Wills Month solicitors offer to draw up wills for free for anyone aged 55 and over. For more information and to find participating solicitors visit **freewillsmonth.org.uk**

Chance to see scheme for 22 homes on coal yard site

A PUBLIC consultation day will be held today (Thursday) into ambitious plans to transform a former village coal yard into an affordable housing development.

Residents of Gobowen are being urged to attend the session to give their views on the plans to turn the yard into a development of 22 homes.

The plans will also allow linked proposals to re-establish a rail connection from the village to Oswestry as well as a new cycleway.

The proposal by the Wrekin Housing Trust was spelt out to Selattyn and Gobowen Parish Council last month and the consultation event today will give the public a chance to view the plans and give their views.

By Iain St John

All local residents are invited to attend the drop in consultation session between 2pm and 5pm at Gobowen Library, view the plans and ask any questions.

Councillor David Lloyd, who represents Gobowen on the unitary authority, encourged residents to find out more about the plans.

He said: "The disposal of the coal yard took such a long time that people were getting quite frustrated wanting to know what was happening.

Affordable

"The whole idea was for the site to provide affordable housing, provide parking and to ensure access to the heritage railway.

"I would certainly encourage people to take the opportunity to have a look at the plans by attending the consultation and have their say."

Parish councillors were told last month the proposals were not yet at the stage where a formal planning application had been submitted but the Wrekin Housing Trust wanted to keep the parish council informed of the development.

The plans would see the building of six bungalows, eight one-bedroom flats, five two-bed homes and three three-bed houses.

Councillors were told the homes will all be developed for affordable rent.

Villagers raise objections to homes plans

BUILDING three homes in Great Ness would see the "desecration" of another of rural community, objectors say.

Residents of Great Ness say the area has been designated open countryside and most of the local population wants it to stay so.

Developers have applied for three homes on a field in the centre of the Great Ness Conservation Area and councillors are being recommended to delegate the decision to the area planning officer.

Objectors say Nessclifte has been designated for further development. "This should amply meet the need for new housing in this area without the desecration of yet another of Shropshire's rural communities," a resident said in an objection letter.

The Central Planning Committee will discuss it at the Shirehall today (Thursday).

Tune in to bedroom radio

Peter Williams from Whittington in his studio.

OPEN the bedroom door in Pete Williamson's home and you will be greeted not by a bed and a wardrobe, but a complete radio studio.

For his semi-detached house in Whittington, near Oswestry, is now shared with Rad Radio, an internet station run by Mr Williamson and his daughter, Sarah Coburn.

The station, which plays music from extreme rock to Irish folk, but definitely not pop, has listeners across the globe.

It has acquired such a following that next year it will host a three-day festival in Mid Wales, the latest string to the bow of the father and daughters. Mr Williamson, 57, is bassist for bands Anubis and Phobis while Sarah, 38, is Anubis's singer/songwriter.

"Rad Radio is a fully licensed and registered online radio station and we are delighted with the response we are getting," he said. Rad Fest will be held from May 2-4 at Penmaenau Farm, Builth Wells. For details visit **www.rad-fest.co.uk** The station can be heard on **radradio.co.uk**

Bellringer group on hunt for members

BELLRINGERS at St Martins Parish Church are looking for new people to join their group after a successful summer.

The tower at St Martins Parish Church in St Martins, near Oswestry, hosted a visit from the University of Bristol Change Ringers during the summer as the group carried out a tour of north Shropshire.

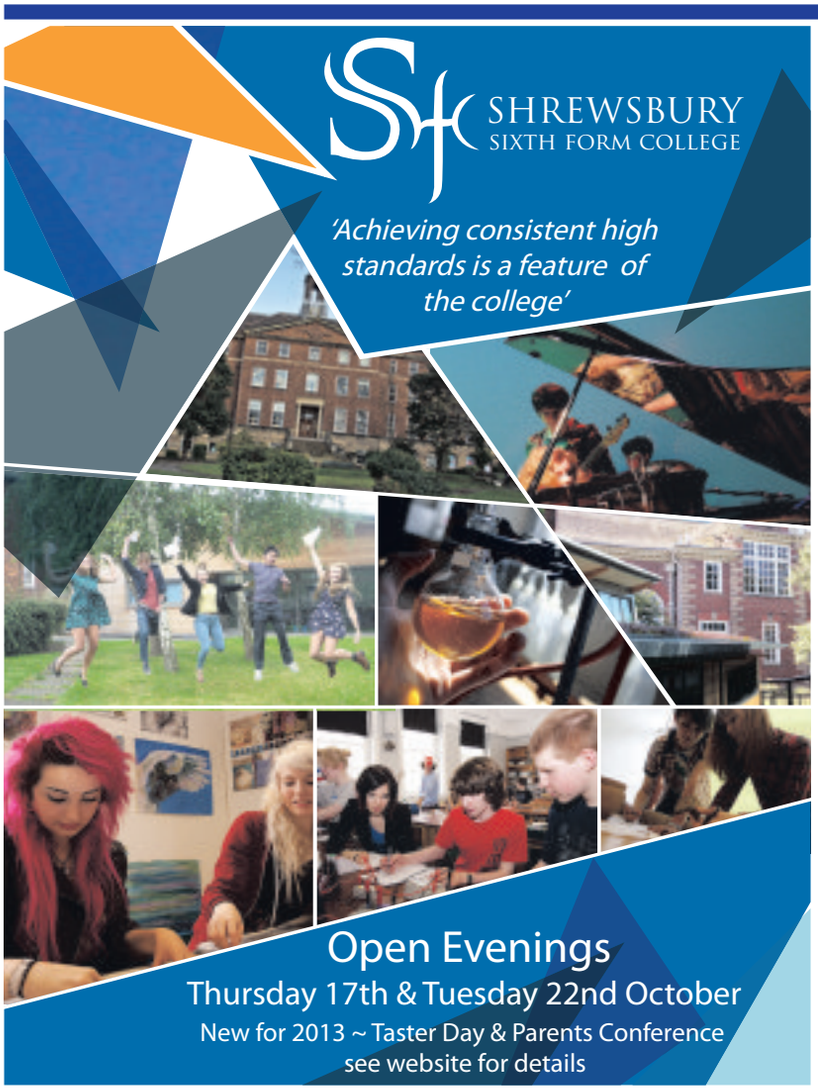
Among the visitors was Derek Williams, who now lives in New Zealand, but who rang his first peal in St Martins in 1961.

The bell tower is preparing for the winter by installing a new set of ropes this month which have been given to the group by the Church League of Friends.

New ringers are now invited to try out bell ringing in the tower. The group meets every Tuesday from 7.30pm to 9pm. For more information please email **stmartins@ringing.org.uk** or call joint tower captains Jayne or William on (01691) 770207.

History seminar

A HISTORY seminar investigating the Norman Conquest of 1066 will be held at The Marches School in Oswestry. The event, entitled "1066 And All That" will take place on October 26 from 10.15am to 4pm.



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Brave Kate battles cancer to lead treatment unit walk

MORE than £1,000 has been raised for a hospital at a walk led by a woman who has been battling cancer for the last five years.

Kate Harding and her family cut the ribbon to start the charity walk around Chirk Castle to raise funds for the Bone Cancer Centre Appeal at the Orthopaedic Hospital near Oswestry.

by Andrew Morris

Kate, 36, only underwent her latest bout of chemotherapy at Christie's hospital in Manchester on Thursday, her latest treatment in her five year battle against the cancer myxoid liposarcoma, but took part in the walk last Sunday.

Doctors have said they cannot cure her disease and Kate, who now has her sights set on celebrating her 40th birthday and helping to raise funds for the Bone Cancer Centre.

She said: "I have been supported by many nice individuals who I now consider friends, along with health professionals worldwide. I thought that since its my third diagnosis and I haven't done much personally to fundraise myself since being so closely involved with cancer, then now maybe a good time.

"Plus its another excuse to highlight the disease and its effects, not just for me as a patient, but also family, friends and loved ones."

Organisers were urging people go along to the 10k walk – just over six miles – which took people through lanes and footpaths at Chirk Castle.

So far, more than £1,000 has been raised by the walk, with more money expected to come in in the coming days.

Diagnosed

Kate, who lives near Chester was first diagnosed in 2008 when she was on a gap year in Australia with her partner.

They had to remain in Australia for 14 months after a six inch diameter tumour was found in her leg.

She said: "My oncologist was on a fellowship there and, when I was fit to fly, she treated me back at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital."

Kate was in remission for almost three years before a lump was found in her back then another at the bottom of her spine. To donate visit **www.justgiving.com/katescancerjourney**

Kate Harding, right, cuts the ribbon for the fundraising walk at Chirk Castle with Peter Harding Margaret Harding and Saffy Sparkles.

Housing schemes raise £600 for charity

A TOTAL of £600 was raised from a series of coffee mornings at sheltered housing schemes in Shropshire.

Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing hosted the fundraisers as part of Macmillan's World's Biggest Coffee Morning.

The fundraisers were held at Monkmoor Court in Oswestry, Kingsway Court and Fairfields Court in Whitchurch, Cedar Close in St Martins, and the Shropshire Housing Alliance Office in Market Drayton.

The coffee mornings included a variety of money-raising activities including cake stalls, raffles and bingo.

Chris Leek, community support services manager at Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing, said: "As well as bringing both tenants and local residents together to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support, the event was a great way to get the local community together to socialise and have fun. I would also like to thank our staff for all their hard work in making this happen."

Burglars take keys and cars in raids

BURGLARS broke into the kitchens of two homes to steal car keys before making off with the vehicles from driveways.

Police seeking witnesses believe the cars were taken by the same offenders.

The thieves stole a red Land Rover Freelander with the registration W0051S from the drive of a home in Lower Minster, Oswestry, between 9pm on Thursday and 7am last Friday. Entry was gained via the back door and the keys stolen from the kitchen.

The Freelander was recovered after a resident of Stoney Road in Treflach, near Oswestry, reported shortly before 8am on Saturday that a vehicle had been abandoned in the road with a rear wheel broken off.

A few minutes earlier, a resident of Offa's Close in Treflach discovered his blue Mercedes C250, registration L010 HWY, was missing from his drive.

Detective Constable Steve Davies, the investigating officer for West Mercia Police, said the keys had been stolen from the kitchen by burglars who also stole a mobile phone and wallet.

"We believe the Mercedes was stolen at some point between midnight and 7.20am, almost certainly by those who had taken the Freelander.

"I am appealing for any information concerning the movements of these two vehicles in the two areas concerned. If anyone spotted either car being driven or people acting suspiciously contact Shrewsbury police station on 101."

Anyone with information about the offenders can also contact the Crimestoppers charity on 0800 555 111, for which a reward may be paid.

Chance to learn more on school

SHROPSHIRE'S first academy school will host its annual open evening today (Thursday).

The Marches School in Oswestry, which last month launched its own sixth form academy, will open its doors to prospective pupils and their families from 4pm to 8pm.

Staff have said the evening will be an opportunity for people to take a look around the school, which has been rated as outstanding by Ofsted, and learn more about the support pupils receive.

There will be a number of activities put on including treasure hunts, explosive experiments, football tournaments and cooking demonstrations

Staff will also be available to answer questions on the new sixth form and provide information on the transport links to and from school.

Visitors will have the opportunity to meet headteacher Sarah Longville as well as curriculum staff and current pupils.

Mrs Longville said: "This is a very exciting time for the school with major developments currently taking place and we are keen to open up our doors and invite people for a look around.

"Students really are at the heart of all that we do at The Marches and the level of care here is second to none.

"I am so proud of this school and, most importantly, the individuals who make it such a special place to be."

For parents and carers who are unable to attend the open evening, the school is arranging individual visits and tours.

To make an appointment contact the school on (01691) 664400.

The school will also hold a sixth form information evening on October 17 from 6pm to 8pm.

Events to test blankets

ELECTRIC blanket testing sessions will be held by firefighters across Mid Wales later this month.

Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service said it is hosting the events because 20 people are killed and 250 people injured ever year in the UK by faulty electric blankets.

The events will be held between 10am and 1pm at Welshpool Fire Station on October 28, and at Montgomery Market Hall on October 31.

Film screening to tie in with town event

OSWESTRY cinema group Kinokulture will be screening the movie Project Wild Thing to tie in with a wildlife event in the town later this month.

The film screening will take place in The Attfield Theatre on the Bailey Head on October 26 at 6pm with an introduction by Shropshire Wildlife Trust trustee Kirsten Mould.

The following day a free afternoon of family activities including bug hunts, bush craft and eco Olympics with Shropshire Wildlife Trust will be held in Cae Glas Park.

The events are being hosted by Kinokulture in association with Oswestry Town Council and Shropshire Wildlife Trust to celebrate the idea behind Project Wild Thing of reconnecting children with the natural world.

Tickets for the film screening event costs £3 for adults and £2 for under-16s. The Go Wild In The Park at Cae Glas Park takes place on October 27 from 1pm to 4pm.

Project Wild Thing is the story of filmmaker David Bond and his attempts to get his children interested in nature.

Ruth Carter, from Kinokulture, said: "It is fantastic that Oswestry Town Council and Shropshire Wildlife Trust are behind the idea of Go Wild In The Park and we want to invite other local groups and organisations to get involved and showcase their outdoor activities too."

For more information on how to get involved or to book tickets for the film screening contact kinokulture cinema on 0845 2500517 (local rate) or by emailing **info@kinokulture.org.uk**

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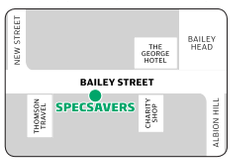

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Law firm welcomes news of mortgage help scheme

by Graham Breeze

THE Government announcement that it will be launching the Help-to-Buy mortgage scheme three months earlier than originally proposed has been welcomed by Oswestry law firm, Lanyon Bowdler.

With mortgage products now becoming available from last Monday the scheme will enable both first time buyers and existing home owners to purchase a new or older property, up to the value of £600,000, with only a five per cent deposit.

The scheme enables the mortgage lender to apply to the Government to buy a guarantee for up to 15per cent of the value of the property and the Government has set aside £12 billion for this purpose.

Emma Alsop, residential conveyancer at Lanyon Bowdler in Oswestry.

Prospective borrowers should note that although the new mortgage products are available from last Monday , borrowers will be unable to complete their property purchase until January when the Government guarantee is issued.

Products

Mortgage products will initially be available through Royal Bank of Scotland, Natwest and Halifax with other banks set to follow over time.

Emma Alsop, a residential conveyancer with Oswestry law firm Lanyon Bowdler said: "It is great to see the new scheme extends to both first time buyers and existing home owners.

"The scheme will no doubt be of real assistance to local prospective buyers given that most of the local area consists of older properties."

Banks have begun to unveil mortgages which they will offer under the expanded Help to Buy scheme.

The government's initiative is designed to enable buyers who can afford only small deposits to buy a home.

There have been concerns the scheme could fuel a housing price bubble, but Treasury Secretary Danny Alexander said that there was no UK price boom.

Housing schemes miss out on prizes

DESIGN experts say the lasting legacy of the recession may be the reason why no housing developments received a prize in this year's Oswestry and District Civic Society Awards.

Housing schemes have picked up prizes in the awards in previous years for their design but none has been chosen this year.

Civic society chairman Saffron Rainey said judges looked at every building built in the 12 months in the area up to June.

He revealed none of the new housing developments was judged to be of such a high standard of design that they warranted a prize.

Mr Rainey said it appeared the recession was having an effect on the design of new estates with judges feeling less emphasis had been put on how they looked.

He said: "We certainly had individual houses shortlisted for prizes but this year we have no housing developments or schemes as such. That may be because of the effects of the recession.

"We know about the recession and the effects it has had on the building industry and this year we have no housing developments up for a prize.

"Usually each year we have picked out a scheme or two, but this year we don't have any."

Firms supporting fundraiser

Kate Howell and Enid Thomas ready for the fundraising concert.

WOODHEAD Estates and The Principality Building Society in Oswestry are backing fundraising efforts for Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Kate Howell said she was "delighted and honoured" to be asked to help support a bilingual concert being staged at The Pedigree in Oswestry on October 18.

The fundraiser will feature male vocal trio Canig, soloist Catrin Awel and compere Glyn Owens with a limited number of tickets available for the event from Woodhead Estates and the Principality Building Society in Leg Street, Oswestry.

Kate said: "We are delighted and honoured for Woodhead Estates and The Principality Building Society to join forces with Marie Curie fundraiser and organiser Enid Thomas to support this event. The relationship with Enid goes back many years, and I was over the moon to be asked to help."

Just ask for help, says water company

WATER firm Severn Trent has urged customers struggling to pay their bills not to be afraid to ask for help.

A recent report by the Consumer Council for Water said billing and charges remain the biggest area of concern for customers, accounting for more than half of the 150,000 written complaints made last year.

Laura Bennett, credit manager at Severn Trent Water, said that people in need often forgot that having a chat could help them to regain control of their finances and organise a plan when struggling to manage their money.

She said: "We don't want our customers to struggle alone – help is available if it's needed.

"There are many ways we can support our customers to make it easier to for them.

"Whether it's setting up a payment plan that helps to budget better, or getting advice on whether a water meter could help save money – we're a phone call away on 08457 500 500.

"Value for money is equally important. At £335, or 92 pence a day, Severn Trent Water's average bill for 2013/14 remains the lowest combined household water bill in England and Wales."

For more information go online to the website **www.stwater.co.uk**

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There is no obligation to include a gift to any of the charities. The campaign is intended for those aged 55 and over.

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Exercise advice on offer at town gym

ANYONE looking to shape up before the end of the year is invited to join a three month course in Oswestry which will combine exercise with healthy living advice.

Run by Jeff Anderson, the director of BodyTech Gym, and Dr Tim Lyttle, a local GP and director of Change Health, the Plan 2 Slim course started on Wednesday at BodyTech Gym in Salop Road.

Each week there will be a presentation on topics such as nutrition, exercise and lifestyle change, and 30 minutes of supervised exercise.

Jeff said: "We are both passionate about helping people lose weight in a healthy way and also learn how to keep the weight off.

"The course will include a personalised food diary, one-to-one consultations, weekly weigh-ins and a chance to sign up for 25 per cent off gym membership for life."

Sessions cost £5 per week or £60 for the whole course. Call (01691) 657400.

Mortgage advice

A BUILDING society in Shropshire is expanding its mortgage advice service with the appointment of a new personal mortgage manager. Kim Rimmer has taken up the role at the Oswestry branch of the West Brom on Church Street.

Festival will raise a glass to cricket club's triumph

BEER drinkers are counting the days until the launch of the Oswestry Beer Festival.

The Oswestry Beer Festival is a two-day extravaganza of real ales and ciders being staged at Oswestry Cricket Club on October 18 and 19. The festival is a celebration of the fantastic efforts of Oswestry Cricket Club, winning back-to-back promotions to reach the 1st Division of the Birmingham Premier Cricket League.

Hugh Roberts, Oswestry Cricket Club Secretary said: "Following on from the promotion of the first team this year, this is a great way to celebrate."

by Graham Breeze

The event coincides with the achievements of Oswestry's very own Stonehouse Brewery, who beat all-comers to win Champion Beer in the Standard Bitters category at the prestigious BEERX awards in Sheffield run by SIBA (Society of Independent Brewers).

The event also marks the seven year success of The Oswestry Food & Drink Festival run by The Best Of Oswestry team – now an established event on the calendar attracting thousands of visitors into the town centre.

Delicious

There will be some cracking beers for people to taste, from the delicious dark ale and wittily named Dark Side of the Moose, to a Mud Stout, brewed with raw cocoa, vanilla pods and flaked oats from Sadler's Brewery.

Tickets are available now for Friday or Saturday and organisers are expecting a sell-out so please book early.

Tickets are £8 and include a very nice etched, festival beer glass along with four beer/cider tokens. Additional drinks tokens will be available.

There's live music too and proper pork pies and pasties for the peckish.

Tickets can be purchased from Oswestry Cricket Club by calling 01691 653006 or from Rowanthorn in Old Chapel Court. Visit **www.oswestrybeerfestival.co.uk** for more information.

Katie's farewell after 26 years

ONE of the founders and leaders of a partnership which covers the majority of colleges in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin, Herefordshire and Worcestershire has retired after 26 years' service.

Katie McCombe, manager of Three Counties Professional Development Partnership, handed over leadership to Paul Cordey this week, one of her fellow managers at Walford and North Shropshire College in Oswestry. The Three Counties PDP was set up 10 years ago to provide professional development and training.

She said she is sorry to be leaving the role, but added: "It's the right time to leave it to the young folk and spend time babysitting my grandson – which means travelling, as he lives in Hong Kong."

Andrew Tyley, principal and chief executive of Walford & North Shropshire College, said: "We owe much to Katie's enthusiasm and hard work. We wish her good health and happiness in her retirement."

Drain supplies now in stock

From left are Mark Davies, Matt Smith with "Mon" and Bill Smith.

OSWESTRY Windows & Doors Ltd has announced it now has a diverse range of underground drainage products and systems in stock.

The firm now offers a large selection of drainage pipes and fittings, inspection chambers, manhole covers and gullies.

"All of our drainage systems are UK manufactured and BS approved and all are fully compatible with our soil pipe system," said Mark Davies.

"We are very excited. We have been stocking a huge range of roofline products, windows, doors and double glazed units for many years now, and feel it's a natural progression for us to stock underground products – for everyone from the building trade through to the DIY enthusiast.

"Call in and see us now for the best underground prices in town."

The company guarantees customers a warm welcome , a chance to see promotional figure "Mon" and for Friday visitors a hot drink and bacon sandwich.

Law firm triumph at night of awards

IT WAS a triumphant evening for Oswestry firm Lanyon Bowdler at the recent LFS Conveyancing Awards where they scooped three honours.

The firm won a gold for Best Website and Marketing, a bronze for Best Use of Social Media, and Emma Alsop, a conveyancer in the residential property department picked up a bronze award for Best Young Conveyancer.

Partner and head of the residential property department David Foden said: "This is tremendous. I am delighted for both the firm and Emma, as the competition was tough with many large national firms entering.

"It is very rewarding to see the firm recognised for its website and social media presence which is led by our Business Development and Marketing Manager, Amanda Jones. In addition, Emma, having won gold for Best Young Conveyancer last year, has once again been recognised for her work which is much deserved."

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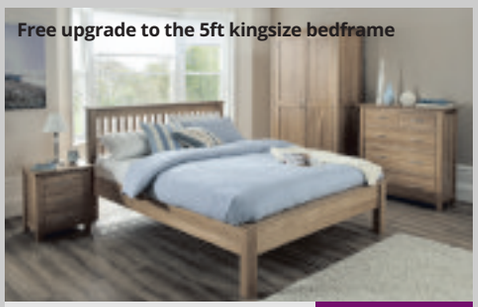

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On the Road

A 12-page commercial feature

Our monthly spotlight on Shropshire's motor dealers

On the Road

TV ad campaign to boost model launch

The new SX4 S-Cross is now on sale and Suzuki has an all-new TV advertising campaign to support the launch, which follows the lighthearted but impactful format of Suzuki GB's 'Have to Have it' strategy that launched the repositioning of the brand in 2012.

The new advert was devised and filmed in the UK by The Red Brick Road, Suzuki's creative agency, and follows a family man living in the suburbs who proudly brings his new car home to a lot of admiring glances and twitching of curtains in the street. Soon after he is deluged by his neighbours all looking for a test ride in the SX4 S-Cross who think of some quite far-fetched scenarios to ring the doorbell of his home.

The Suzuki SX4 S-Cross is now on sale. Prices start from £14,999

Helicopter

His new-found friends hatch a master plan between them which includes a cushion-faked heavy pregnancy, an urgent trip to the vets and a strangely 'out of control' remote toy helicopter which needs to be retrieved from the fields to pacify its young owner.

The new advert is running in October in prime-time slots on ITV1 and Channel 4 together with online campaigns and also a competition on Twitter encouraging people to tweet their excuses of why they 'Have to Have' the S-Cross using #winthescross. The soulful soundtrack is by James Brown and titled 'I Want You So Bad'.

Priced from £14,999, all SX4 S-Cross models are highly equipped as standard including seven airbags, ESP, tyre pressure monitoring, 16in alloy wheels and air conditioning. Two engines are offered, a 1.6-litre petrol and a 1.6-litre diesel and the new car follows Suzuki's familiar 'SZ' grading structure with SZ3, SZ4, SZ-T and SZ5 models available. The SX4 S-Cross is also available optionally with ALLGRIP; Suzuki's latest technology four-mode four wheel-drive system for even greater security during the winter months.

Cost of ownership is favourable as well with low CO2 emissions of just 110g/km for the 1.6-litre DDiS model and 127g/km for the 1.6-litre petrol with manual transmission. For additional flexibility and ease of use a CVT (Continuously Variable Transmission) is offered as an option with the petrol engine that enables the driver to shift up or down the gears automatically or via paddle shift buttons behind the steering wheel.

One of the scenarios from the TV advertising campaign

The new Fiat 500L MPW, which is offered in two trim levels – Pop Star and Lounge

A great combination

Following the successful launch of the Fiat 500L in March and the 500L Trekking in June, the newest member of the 500L range is now on sale in the UK – the new Fiat 500L MPW.

The 500L MPW is the perfect expression of Fiat's know-how in making space-efficient cars with a twist – combining the charm and agility of the Fiat 500 with the comfort and contents of a C-segment car and the space and the versatility of a people carrier.

In either five-seat or optional 5+2-seat configuration, the Fiat 500L MPW offers two compelling packages: As a five-seat vehicle the Fiat 500L MPW is a credible alternative to a traditional C-segment estate, combining exceptional roominess and comfort with an impressive load capacity of 638 litres and all within a footprint at least 20cm shorter overall.

Compact

As a people carrier it is the most compact 5+2-seater in its segment, measuring just 4,352mm in length, 1,784mm in width and 1,667mm in height, while still offering the same kind of load-carrying versatility of the five-seat version when its rear-most seats are folded flat and stored neatly under the boot the floor.

The new Fiat 500L MPW will be offered in two trim levels: Pop Star and Lounge. Equipment highlights on the Pop Star version include air conditioning, cruise control, 16in alloy wheels, a 5in touchscreen infotainment system with Uconnect, six airbags, a full suite of stability and traction control safety systems as well as rear parking sensors.

Inside the 500L MPW, space efficient with a twist

The Lounge version builds on the Pop Star's high specification level by adding rear electric windows, front fog lights, dual-zone automatic climate control, automatic headlamps, rain sensors, front seats with seat back tables and storage nets, an electro-chromatic rear view mirror, rear privacy glass, floor mats and an electric glass sunroof.

The new Fiat 500L MPW engine range consists of four power plants: The 95hp 1.4-litre petrol (five-seat only); the 105hp 0.9 TwinAir petrol; the 85hp 1.3 MultiJet (also available with the Dualogic automatic transmission) and the 105hp 1.6-litre MultiJet. A total of nine different exterior colour choices are available, plus a variety of contrasting roof and mirror colour combinations, as well as a range of alloy wheels in different sizes, styles and colours.

Prices for the Fiat 500L MPW start at £15,795 for the 1.4 Pop Star while the seven-seat versions start at £17,990 for either the TwinAir 105hp Pop Star or 1.3 MultiJet 85hp Pop Star.

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Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki SX4 S-Cross range mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km): Urban 39.7-55.3 (7.1-5.1), Extra Urban 55.3-76.3 (5.1-3.7), Combined 47.8-67.2 (5.9-4.2), CO_2 emissions 135-110 g/km.

The above fuel consumption figures are based on EU 98/69 for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. *Model shown: SX4 S-Cross 1.6 SZ5 available from £18,749. SX4 S-Cross range – SX4 S-Cross 1.6 SZ3 Manual available at £14,999 to SX4 S-Cross 1.6 DDiS SZ5 ALLGRIP Manual available at £23,549. The features referred to in this advertisement and all specifications and equipment may vary depending on: engine, transmission and model grade. All prices and specifications correct at time of going to print. On the road price valid from 1st September 2013 to 31st December 2013. Model shown – SX4 S-Cross 1.6 SZ5 Manual (metallic paint £430). ALLGRIP 4-wheel Drive only available on 1.6 petrol SZ5 and DDiS SZ-T & SZ5 models.

Search/SuzukiCarsUK

Wendy Russell, Clare Jones, Kate Dean and Laura Western

Staff in charity bake

It was a great day for anyone with a sweet tooth at the end of last month as Greenhous held a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Research.

Staff got hard to work baking at Vauxhall Telford, Trench Lock and at the head office in Shrewsbury in order to host the event in the morning.

Along with thousands of others around the country, Greenhous took part in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning in order to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

The event began in 1990 and went national the year after when 2,600 people registered to hold coffee mornings around the country. Since then it has raised over £75 million in total for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Clare Jones, from the customer care team, said: "We get involved in the coffee morning every year and it is a great way to raise money for such an important cause. If it wasn't for the members of staff who baked cakes in their own time to sell, a fundraiser like this wouldn't be possible.

"The idea of a coffee morning is so simple and makes fundraising into something fun and obviously very enjoyable – who doesn't like cake! The sense of achievement after we had combined our collections and counted up our total was fantastic. Everyone was keen to get involved and we even took more cakes around the different Greenhous sites the week after to try and raise even more money."

Clare concluded: "We would like to thank everyone who baked a cake or donated money and helped to fundraise for Macmillan. We raised a total of £240 and are very pleased with our efforts here at head office and over at Vauxhall Telford."

Nissan Leaf proves 'green' is the future

With the new Leaf released back in June, Nissan has continued to dominate the electric vehicle market with this innovative car. Having undergone a number of developments since its launch, the Leaf is now more efficient than ever, something that Greenhous staff in Shrewsbury are making the most of.

Neil Scutts, sales manager at Greenhous Nissan has been driving the Leaf as a company car for the past couple of months and believes the UK's best selling electric vehicle is the way forward for driving.

Sales manager Neil Scutts charging the Nissan Leaf

Ideal

"I have recently started driving the Leaf as my company car and it really is ideal for me in an economical and a practical sense.

"The Leaf has a range of 124 miles and as I only between four and five miles from the Greenhous showroom at Featherbed Lane, I am able to use the Leaf for nearly a week without having to re-charge it.

"The car itself is so easy to drive and Nissan have made sure the latest model has plenty of torque, making it drive just as well, if not better than a regular fuel car."

Although the Nissan Leaf landed back in 2011, the latest model has seen big improvements in efficiency and practicality. The result is a vehicle that can easily rival not only other electric cars on the market, but also normal fuel cars.

Innovation is the key message with the Leaf and many of its new features mirror this. The updated Carwings system means the infotainment and navigation system in the car are controllable remotely from the user's desktop or smartphone.

Nissan are also constantly implementing new ways to stay as eco-friendly as possible, including its Advance Eco Route Planning. Customers can input their destination onto their desktop or smartphone and the Leaf will automatically plot the most power-saving route.

Neil continued "The new Leaf is surprisingly spacious and plenty big enough for my two kids in the back with an additional 40 litres more boot space than before.

"With no CO2 emissions, customers can make some serious savings, including free road tax and no benefit-in-kind for businesses using the Leaf as company cars. This means the driver pays absolutely no tax, something that can become quite a costly downside to driving a company car."

Affordable

Neil concluded: "Since its launch in 2011, the Leaf has become far more affordable. Prices are now highly competitive after it became the first electric car to be built in the UK.

"Electric vehicles may have initially appealed to those who were fiercely eco-friendly, but it is now making real economic sense for everyone to make the switch to electric due to the rising cost of driving. We are thrilled of the Leaf's success so far and would urge anyone to come and test drive it to see for themselves."

To book a test drive, call Neil or one of his team on 01743 454141.

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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO_2 emissions: 373 - 88g/km.#

Available on selected models only, at participating Retailers. Refer to www.vauxhall.co.uk/offers or contact your local Vauxhall Retailer for details. Finance subject to status. Terms and Conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Finance supplied by Vauxhall Finance, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Offer will apply to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1- 24 (purchase only, excluding B2B supported units). All other customers are excluded.**Vauxhall Deposit Contribution may vary and excludes ADAM, Mokka, Cascada and New Insignia (MY14) models. We can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission maybe received. ^Customer deposit shown after deduction of retailer contribution. ◊ Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and Conditions apply. Offers available on orders or registrations before 16 December 2013. #Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.

On the Road

The Peugeot 308, to be launched in the UK in January, has four trim levels – Access, Active, Allure and Feline

Order books open for 308

The new Peugeot 308 is now available to order with the announcement of full pricing and specifications, in readiness for the UK launch and first customer deliveries on January 4, 2014.

The pricing and specification of the new 308 builds on the product values: a stylish design, impressive driving experience, class-leading efficiency and built to high-standards with high-quality materials, but does so in ways that also enhance the delights of ownership and the stress-free driving experience.

The UK range has four trim levels, designated: Access, Active, Allure and Feline, each one with compelling features and competitively priced.

All new 308s, starting with the Access model, feature a high level of standard equipment that includes air conditioning, remote central door locking, cruise control with speed limiter, DAB digital radio, LED daylight running lights and Bluetooth connectivity.

Strongly

At the next trim level – the Active model – the specification comparison places it very strongly against its key competitors, featuring as standard dual-zone air conditioning, electric handbrake, rear parking sensors, integrated 9.7in touch screen (easily the largest in the sector and more functional) and satellite navigation – making it a compelling consideration.

Another popular model in the New 308 range is expected to be the Allure which is distinguished by innovative full LED headlamps, 17in alloy wheels, a reversing camera and front parking sensors.

The Feline is the top-of-the-range model and has an impressive specification that includes a panoramic Cielo glass roof, Alcantara trimmed sports seats and the Driver Assistance Pack with an impressive collection of driver assistance and safety devices: Dynamic Cruise Control, Emergency Collision Alert and Emergency Collision Braking System.

Christmas cracker is waiting for you

You probably don't want to hear it, but the shops are already stocking great gifts for Christmas – and it's the same story at Peugeot dealerships. There are exactly 76 days until it's time to unwrap the presents, and with showrooms open for business on every single one, they're all shopping days!

UK new car registrations have risen nationally for 18 consecutive months as the emerging economic recovery drives up business (figures compiled by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders), and Peugeot is matching that trend with a strong retail performance in 2013, with sales 15 per cent up year to date.

Peugeot has an extensive range of popular models and great offers for new '63-plate vehicles. Customers who act now can get a visit from Santa before the big day. Peugeot showrooms across the UK feature one of the car industry's widest ranges, including hatchbacks, saloons, SWs, people carriers, crossovers, compact MPVs, coupé cabriolets and sport coupés, plus a choice of practical.

Acclaimed

The vehicle line-up features four acclaimed new products launched during 2013 – an enhanced version of the stunning Peugeot RCZ Sports Coupé, the sophisticated and luxurious Peugeot 208 XY, the performance-oriented Peugeot 208 GTi and the versatile 2008 Compact Crossover.

Buying one couldn't be easier, due in part to Peugeot's highly popular 'Just Add Fuel' offer. There's additional festive cheer for 21-year-old drivers, as the programme has recently been extended to include them for the first time.

Just Add Fuel is a first for the car industry, providing three years' servicing, roadside assistance, warranty, road tax and insurance all for one monthly payment which impressively is fixed over three years. Just Add Fuel prices remain very competitive and customers can drive away a brand new Peugeot 208 1.0-litre VTi Access from just £179 a month.

Just Add Fuel isn't the only way to treat yourself to a new Peugeot this Christmas. With other special seasonal offers there's never been a better time to visit a Peugeot dealership.

Take a look at the offers from Peugeot

For example, on the ever-popular Peugeot 107 city car, customers buying through 'Peugeot Passport' can receive a dealer deposit contribution of up to £625.

Peugeot Passport is the brand's personal lease plan, with a low APR rate of just 5.9 per cent. It puts a new car within easy reach and features fixed monthly payments to help budgeting. It's a fixed-term contract with flexible options upon completion. With a customer deposit of just £129 and 36 monthly payments of £129, customers can drive away in a brand new three-door Peugeot 107 Access.

PEUGEOT *208* ACCESS

Car insurance. It's a biggie. So why is it left out from other packages? Only Just Add Fuel includes comprehensive insurance* with your monthly payments. So all you need to do is Just Add Fuel. And with the Peugeot 208 Access you'll get 65.7mpg, so those trips to the petrol station will be few and far between. To arrange a test drive, simply contact us today.

MOTION & EMOTION

PEUGEOT

PEUGEOT *107* ACTIVE

Car insurance. It's a biggie. So why is it left out from other packages? Only Just Add Fuel includes comprehensive insurance* with your monthly payments. So all you need to do is Just Add Fuel. And with great fuel economy across the Peugeot range, those trips to the petrol station will be few and far between. To arrange a test drive, simply contact us today.

MOTION & EMOTION

PEUGEOT

BUDGEN MOTORS

Featherbed Lane, SHREWSBURY, SY1 4NN Tel: 01743 445611

www.budgenmotorcars.co.uk

The official fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km) for the 208 range are: Urban 34.9 – 78.4 (8.1 – 3.6), Extra Urban 62.8 – 88.2 (4.5 – 3.2), Combined 48.7 – 83.0 (5.8 – 3.4) and CO_2 135 – 87.

MPG figures are achieved under official EU test conditions, intended as a guide for comparative purposes only, and may not reflect actual on-the-road driving conditions.

*Terms and conditions apply, participating dealers only or visit www.peugeot.co.uk. To finance your [lease/purchase] we may introduce you to a limited number of lenders.

†The first year Road Fund Licence (RFL) is included in the on the road price. The Dealer will provide customers with a cheque equivalent to twice the current RFL cost. The customer must apply for years 2 & 3 RFL.

Just Add Fuel (JAF) is subject to status. *Minimum age 21, 25 or 30 on selected models, maximum age 75. Policyholder must have a minimum of 2 years NCD to use on the vehicle. All drivers must meet eligibility criteria including minimum 2 years' full UK licence, driving convictions/claims limits. Excesses apply. 3 years motor insurance is provided and underwritten by U K Insurance Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. A guarantee may be required. Written quotations available from Peugeot Financial Services, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Redhill, RH1 1QA. JAF is incorporated into a Personal Lease contract. 208 Access 1.0 VTi 68 3dr initial rental £2,116, optional final rental £4,510, 35 monthly rentals. If you choose to pay off the optional final rental, you can pay an annual rental equivalent to one of your monthly rentals but will not own the car. Ownership is possible with JAF Passport, ask your Dealer for details. Rentals quoted for a typical customer & will vary according to age, post code and annual mileage. Excess mileage charges may apply. Routine servicing included only. Excludes wear parts. This offer is not available in N I. Offer available on cars ordered and registered by 31st December 2013. Calls may be recorded for training purposes.

TELFORD MOTORS

Holyhead Road, TELFORD, TF1 5YB Tel: 01952 620404

www.telfordmotors.co.uk

The official fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km) for the 107 range are: Urban 52.3 – 55.4 (5.4 – 5.1), Extra Urban 70.7 – 74.3 (4.0 – 3.8), Combined 62.8 – 65.7 (4.5 – 4.3) and CO_2 104 – 99.

MPG figures are achieved under official EU test conditions, intended as a guide for comparative purposes only, and may not reflect actual on-the-road driving conditions.

*Terms and conditions apply, participating dealers only or visit www.peugeot.co.uk. To finance your [lease/purchase] we may introduce you to a limited number of lenders.

The Dealer will provide customers with a cheque equivalent to twice the current RFL cost. The customer must apply for years 2 and 3 RFL.

Just Add Fuel (JAF) is subject to status. *Minimum age 21, 25 or 30 on selected models, maximum age 75. Policyholder must have a minimum of 2 years NCD to use on the vehicle. All drivers must meet eligibility criteria including minimum 2 years' full UK licence, driving convictions/claims limits. Excesses apply. 3 years motor insurance is provided and underwritten by U K Insurance Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. A guarantee may be required. Written quotations available from Peugeot Financial Services, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Redhill, RH1 1QA. JAF is incorporated into a Personal Lease contract. 107 Active 3dr initial rental £1,805, optional final rental £4,072, 35 monthly rentals. If you choose to pay off the optional final rental, you can pay an annual rental equivalent to one of your monthly rentals but will not own the car. Ownership is possible with JAF Passport, ask your Dealer for details. Rentals quoted for a typical customer and will vary according to age, post code and annual mileage. Excess mileage charges may apply. Routine servicing included only. Excludes wear parts. This offer is not available in N I. Offer available on cars ordered and registered by 31st December 2013. Calls may be recorded for training purposes.

AT FURROWS

SAVE £1000s THIS WEEKEND

SPECIAL FINANCE DEALS BEST PART-EXCHANGE PRICES

OVER 50 IN STOCK

New model Ford Focus

Petrol & Diesel, choice of spec, inc. award-winning EcoBoost engine, all with balance of Ford Warranty.

from just £9995

Available with Furrows flexible finance - get your quote today

SPECIAL FINANCE OFFER*

New model Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec petrol
Sat Nav & Appearance Pack
Choice of colours

Representative finance example	
Cash price	£9,995.00
Deposit	£995.00
Balance	£9,000.00
42 monthly payments	£180.00
GMFV/final payment	£3,334.83
Total payable	£11,889.83
Representative	8.9% APR

ON DISPLAY AT SHREWSBURY

MANAGERS REDUCTIONS

		WAS	NOW
10 10	Ford C-Max 1.6 Zetec 5dr, Ocean Blue	£7,495	£6,995
10 10	Ford C-Max 1.8Tdci Zetec Diesel 5dr, Ocean Blue	£10,695	£9,995
12 12	Ford Fiesta 1.25 Zetec 5dr(New Shape), Hot Magenta	£9,695	£8,995
12 61	Kia Rio 1.2 Level 2 Hatch 5dr, Sparkling Black	£9,995	£8,995
12 12	New Mdl Ford Focus 1.6 Tdci Titanium X Top Spec Diesel Estate, Part Leather,Titanium Appearance Pck, Retractable Tow bar	£15,995	£14,995
10 10	Ford Kuga 2.0Tdci Titanium Diesel 4x4, Panther Black	£15,995	£14,995
11 11	Ford Kuga 2.0Tdci Titanium Diesel 4x4, Micastone	£17,695	£16,995
12 12	Mondeo 2.2Tdci Titanium X Sport Top Spec Diesel Estate, Touchscreen Nav,Privacy Glass, Roof Rails(List price New£29875)	£18,995	£17,995
12 62	Mazda CX-5 Sport Nav 2.0 SUV, Sky Blue Met	£22,995	£21,995
10 10	Nissan Qashqai Tekna 1.5Dci Diesel SUV, Bronze Metallic	£12,995	£12,495
12 61	VW Passat 1.6 Tdi Bluemotion Tech S Diesel Estate, Met Grey	£14,995	£14,695
09 09	Mini One 1.4 Auto, Yellow	£7,695	£7,395
10 10	Peugeot 308 Hdi Sport Diesel 5dr, Burgundy	£6,695	£6,295
11 61	Audi A1 Tdi 1.6 Diesel Sport 3dr, Black	£12,495	£11,995
11 61	BMW 118D M Sport Diesel Sports hatch, Silver	£15,995	£14,995
09 59	Mazda MX-5 i SE Convertible, Black	£9,995	£8,995
11 11	Peugeot RCZ GT THP156 Sports Coupe', Black	£15,995	£14,995
11 11	Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 Cdti Sri(160) Diesel 5dr, Silver	£11,495	£10,695

FORD SELECTION PETROL/DIESEL

08 08	Ford Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 5dr, Silver	£4,995
07 57	Ford Fiesta 1.4 Ghia 5dr, Silver	£4,995
09 59	Ford Fiesta 1.6 Titanium 5dr(New Shape), Panther Black	£7,495
09 09	Ford Fiesta 1.25 Style 3dr(New Shape), Ocean Blue	£5,995
12 62	New Mdl Fiesta 1.25 Zetec 82ps 5dr,Privacy Glass,City pck,Copper	£11,995
12 62	New Mdl Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr, Silver	£11,695
12 62	New Mdl Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr, Silver	£11,695
12 62	New Mdl Ford Focus 1.6 Tdci Zetec Diesel 5dr, Candy Red	£13,495
12 62	New Mdl Ford Focus 1.0 Ecoboost 100ps Zetec 5dr, Race Red	£13,695
12 12	New Mdl Ford Focus 1.6 Tdci Zetec Diesel 5dr, Frozen White	£11,495
12 12	New Mdl Ford Focus 1.6 Tdci Zetec Diesel 5dr, Panther Black	£11,495
11 61	New Mdl Focus 1.6 Zetec 5dr, Candy Red	£10,995
09 59	Ford Focus 1.8 Tdci Titanium Diesel 5dr, Sea Grey	£7,995
08 08	Ford Focus 2.0 Tdci Titanium Diesel 5dr, Ocean Blue	£7,695
08 58	Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec climate 5dr, Morrello	£5,995
10 10	Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec climate Automatic 5dr, Vision Blue	£7,995
10 60	Ford Focus 1.6 Tdci Zetec Diesel 5dr, Vision Blue	£7,995
10 60	New Mdl Ford Ka 1.25 Zetec 3dr, Met Blue	£6,495
10 60	New Mdl Ford Ka 1.25 Titanium Top Spec 3dr, Panther Black	£7,495
07 57	Ford Mondeo 2.0 Edge 5dr, Silver	£5,495
10 10	Ford Mondeo 2.0 Tdci Zetec 5dr, Panther Black	£8,695
10 60	Ford Mondeo 2.0 Tdci Titanium"X" Diesel 5dr, Lunar Sky	£13,695

KIA SELECTION PETROL/DIESEL (Home Of the 7 Year Warranty)

10 60	Kia Ceed' 1.6 Crdi Level 2 Diesel 5dr, Brilliant Black	£9,495
12 12	Kia Ceed' 1.6 Crdi VR-7 Diesel 5dr, Met Grey	£9,995
09 09	Kia Picanto Level 1 Hatch 5dr, Brilliant Black	£4,295
07 57	Kia Picanto 1.1 Ice Automatic Special Edtn, Met Grey	£3,795
11 11	Kia Picanto1.1 Domino 5dr, Brilliant Black	£5,495
11 11	New Mdl Kia Picanto Level 2 Ecodynamics 5dr, Blaze Red	£6,995
12 62	Kia Rio 1.1 Crdi Level 1 Ecodynamics Diesel 5dr, Sparkling Black	£9,495
12 62	Kia Venga 1.4 Crdi Level 2 diesel 5dr, Sparkling Black	£11,495
12 12	Kia Venga 1.4 Crdi Level 2 Diesel 5dr, Silver	£10,695
12 12	Kia Venga 1.4 Crdi Level 2 Diesel 5dr, Met Blue	£10,495

OVER 350 CARS IN GROUP STOCK

DIRECT FROM KIA-FULL 7 YEAR KIA WARRANTY & 3 YEARS 0% FINANCE

12 62	New Mdl Kia Ceed'1.6 Crdi Level 3 Diesel 5dr(7 Year Warranty), Choice of Met	£14,995
12 62	New Mdl Kia Ceed'1.6 Crdi Level 2 Diesel 5dr(7 Year Warranty), Choice of Met	£13,995

ESTATES & 4X4 MANY MORE IN STOCK

12 62	Ford Kuga 2.0Tdci Titanium"X" Diesel, App Pack,Panoramic roof	£21,995
13 13	New Mdl Ford Ranger 2.2Tdci Diesel 4x4 Pick up, Colorado Red Fitted with Pegasus Sports Top Up Cover with Styling Bar	£17,995 + VAT
12 61	Landrover Freelander 2.2"XS"TD4 Diesel (Sat Nav), Met Grey	£21,995
10 60	Mazda 6 TS2 2.2TD Diesel Estate, Black	£10,495
08 58	Kia Sportage 2.0Crdi "XS"4x4(Full Leather), Brilliant Black	£9,995
10 60	Kia Sorento 2.2 Crdi Level 1 Diesel 4x4 Auto, Silver	£15,995
12 62	Kia Sorento 2.2 Crdi KX-3 Diesel 4x4 (Full Leather), Brilliant Black	£22,995
12 62	Kia Sorento 2.2 Crdi Atlas (Special Edtn) Diesel 4x4 (Full Leather,Sat Nav)	£22,995
08 58	Subaru Forester 2.0"X" Boxer Diesel 4x4, Silver	£12,695

7 SEATER PEOPLE CARRIERS

12 12	Ford Grand C-Max 1.6 Zetec 7 Seater MPV, Panther Black	£12,495
08 08	Ford Galaxy 2.3 Ghia Automatic 7 Seater, Colorado Red	£8,695
09 09	Kia Carens 2.0 Crdi"LS Diesel 7 Seater, Silver	£7,695
10 10	Vauxhall Zafira 1.7Cdti Design Ecoflex Diesel 7 Seater, Met Blue	£8,995
07 07	Vauxhall Zafira 1.6 Club 7 Seater, Silver	£4,695

MAZDA-PETROL & DIESEL

10 10	Mazda 2 Tamura 3dr, Met Grey	£6,995
08 08	Mazda 2 Sport 5dr, Met Grey	£6,495
09 59	Mazda 2"TS"5dr, Met Grey	£5,995
08 58	Mazda 3 Takara 5dr, Met blue	£5,995
12 61	Mazda 3 Takuya 1.6 5 dr, Met Grey	£11,695
12 62	Mazda 3 TS2 Diesel 5dr, Velocity red	£11,995

OTHER MAKES & MODELS-PETROL & DIESEL

05 05	Nissan Micra 1.2"S" 3dr, Silver	£3,695
07 56	Suzuki Swift 1.5 VVTS GLX 5dr, Black	£4,995
09 58	Toyota Aygo 1.0 Platinum VVT-i 5dr, Silver	£4,995
07 57	Toyota Yaris 1.8"SR"5dr, Red	£5,495
07 07	Toyota Yaris 1.3 T3 5dr, Black	£4,995
11 60	Vauxhall Astra 1.7 Cdti Exclusive Diesel 5dr, Red	£8,695
10 60	Vauxhall Astra 1.7 Cdti Exclusive Diesel 5dr, Black	£8,495
03 52	Vauxhall Corsa 1.2 Sxi 3dr, Silver	£2,695
10 60	Vauxhall Corsa 1.3 Cdti Ecoflex Energy Diesel 5dr, Met grey	£7,495
07 57	Vauxhall Meriva 1.4 Design MP 5dr, Red	£4,995
07 07	Vauxhall Vectra 1.8 Sri 5dr, Red Metallic	£3,995
08 08	Vauxhall Vectra 1.9 Cdti Design Diesel 5dr, Met grey	£4,995
10 10	Volkswagen Urban Fox 55 3dr, Silver	£4,995
09 09	Volkswagen Passat 2.0 Tdi Cr Highline Diesel 4dr, Silver	£8,995

SPORTS & PERFORMANCE MANY MORE IN STOCK

11 60	Ford Fiesta 1.6 Tdci Zetec"S" Diesel 3dr(New Shape), Micastone	£9,695
09 59	Ford Focus 1.8 Zetec"S" 5dr Sports hatch, Sea Grey	£8,695
10 60	Ford Focus ST-3 Sports hatch 5dr(Full Leather Only 18k Miles), Blue	£14,995
11 11	Lexus "IS"200d Sport Diesel,Sat Nav,Part Leather, Reversing Camera	£17,695
11 61	Mazda 2.3T MPS 5 dr Sports Hatch, Silver	£14,695
07 07	Mazda MX-5 1.8i Convertible, Red	£7,695
08 08	Mazda MX-5 Roadster, Black	£9,995
10 60	Vauxhall Astra 1.7 Cdti"Sri" Ecoflex Diesel 5dr, Black	£9,495

ON DISPLAY AT TELFORD

MANAGERS REDUCTIONS

		WAS	NOW
12 12	Ford Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Climate 3dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,f/s/h	£9495	£8995
10 59	Kia Picanto 1.1 Strike Auto 5dr abs,cl,ew,met paint,f/s/h	£5995	£5495
10 10	Ford Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Climate 3dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,met,f/s/h	£7495	£6995
12 12	Vauxhaull Corsa 1.2 Active 5dr a/c,cd,alloys,abs,cl,ew,met	£9495	£6995
10 60	Ford Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Climate 5dr a/c,cd,abs,alloys,cl,ew	£9495	£7995
10 60	Ford Fiesta 1.25 Edge 5dr a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint,f/s/h	£8295	£7695
10 60	Ford Ka 1.25 Studio 3dr cl,ew,abs,a/c,white paint,f/s/h	£6495	£5995
11 11	Ford fiesta 1.4 zetec climate 5dr ac, cd,ew, met paint, alloys	£8495	£6995
10 10	Ford Fusion 1.6 Titanium 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,1 owner,f/s/h	£9495	£8995
09 59	Fiat Panda 1.1 Active Eco 5dr cd,abs,cl,pasf/s/h,white paint	£4995	£4495
11 11	Ford Fiesta 1.6 tdci 5dr econetic, cd, abs,cl,ew, f/s/h,met paint	£8495	£7995
10 60	Ford Ka 1.25 Titanium 3dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew	£7995	£6695
12 12	Ford Fiesta 1.25 Style 3dr a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,white paint,f/s/h	£7995	£6995
11 11	Ford Ka 1.3Tdci Zetec 3dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,met paint,f/s/h	£8495	£7495
10 10	Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec Climate 5dr a/c,cd,alloys,abs, met paint	£7995	£7495
09 09	Ford Focus 1.616v Zetec Climate 5dr a/c,cd,alloys,abs,met paint	£6695	£6495
10 60	Ford Focus 1.616v Zetec Climate 5dr a/c,cd,abs,alloys, F/S/H	£8695	£7995
12 61	New Kia Rio 1.4 Level 2 5dr a/c,cd,alloys,abs,cl,ew,met,f/s/h	£9295	£8495
05 55	Audi A4 S-Line Cab 2dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£6995	£6495
10 10	Ford Mondeo 2.0 tdci Titanium 5dr a/c,cd,abs,ew,alloys,met	£12495	£11995
10 10	Ford Fiesta 1.4 Tdci Edge 5dr a/c,cd,cl,ew,met paint,f/s/h,abs	£8495	£6995
11 60	Focus 1.6Tdci Zetec Climate 5dr sports pack & sat nav,alloys	£10495	£8995
09 59	Ford Mondeo 2.0 Tdci Titanium 5dr alloys,abs, met paint,a/c,cd	£11495	£9495
10 60	Mondeo 2.0 Tdci Zetec163 Powershift 5dr alloys, abs,f/s/h	£12995	£11495
10 10	Ford Focus 1.8 tdci Titanium 5dr alloys,a/c,abs,cl,ew, f/s/h	£8695	£7995
11 11	Ford fiesta zetec 1.4 tdci ac alloys cd ew met paint only 2 left	£8995	£7995
11 11	New Ford Mondeo 2.0 Tdci Zetec 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,	£11495	£10995
11 11	Focus 1.6 Tdci Sport 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,nav, choice from	£8995	£8495
10 60	Fiesta 1.4 Tdci Zetec 5dr a/c,hfs,abs,alloys, ew,met paint,f/s/h	£8995	£7495
12 12	New Focus1.6 Tdci Zetec Climate 5dr Estate alloys,a/c,cd,abs	£12695	£11495
12 12	Focus zetec 1.6 tdci sat nav appearance pack ac cd Bluetooth	£12495	£11495
10 10	Ford C-Max 1.8 Tdci Zetec Climate 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,f/s/h	£10495	£9995
10 10	Ford C-Max 1.8 Zetec Climate 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl, f/s/h	£9295	£8795

SMALL VEHICLES

12 12	New Kia Picanto 1 1.0 Air 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint,f/s/h	£6695
10 59	Vauxhaull Corsa 1.2 Club a/c 3DR alloys,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£6695
11 61	New Kia Picanto 1.0 5dr Level 1 "AIR" a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£7795
08 58	Ford Fiesta 1.4 Ghia 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£5295
04 54	Volkswagen Polo 1.2 E 5dr a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£3995
08 58	Nissan Micra 1.2 Accenta 3dr auto a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£5295
05 05	Vauxhaull Corsa 1.2 SXI 3dr alloys,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£3295
12 12	Volkswagen Polo 1.2 S 60 5dr a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint,f/s/h	£8495
10 10	Ford Fusion 1.4 Zetec Climate 5dr Auto alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£6295
05 55	Vauxhaull Corsa 1.2 SXI a/c 3dr alloys,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£3695
10 60	Mazda 2 1.3 TS-2 3dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,1 owner f/s/h	£6995
07 57	Vauxhaull Corsa 1.2 Design 3dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£4995
10 60	Fiat Grand Punto 1.4 Evo GP 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint,f/s/h	£6495
11 11	Nissan Note 1.4 N-TEC 5DR alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint,f/s/h	£8995
08 58	Peugout 1.4 S 5dr a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£4695
12 62	Renault Clio 1.2 Dynamique Tom Tom 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,met paint	£8295
10 60	Ford Ka 1.2 Studio 3dr cl,ew,met paint,1 owner,f/s/h	£6495
07 57	Daihatsu Sirion 1.0 S 5dr a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£3995
11 61	New Ford Ka 1.25 Edge 3dr a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint,f/s/h	£6995
10 10	New ford ka studio 1.2 5dr low miles fsh finished in black ,f/s/h	£6495

MEDIUM/SPORTS

08 08	Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec Climate 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£5995
11 11	Suzuki Splash 1.0 GLS 5DR a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint,f/s/h	£6495
12 12	Kia Venga 1.4 Level 2 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint,f/s/h	£10495
10 60	Ford Fiesta 1.6 Zetec-S 3dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint,f/s/h	£9995
11 61	Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec Climate 5dr alloys,abs,cl,ew,met paint,f/s/h	£8995
10 60	Kia Rio 1.4 Level 2 Auto 5dr a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,alloys,abs,f/s/h	£6495
06 06	Nissan Primera 1.8 S 5dr a/c,cd,cl,ew,met paint,abs	£2995
08 58	Audi A-4 1.8 T-Fsi 4dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£10495
09 59	Peugout 207 CC 1.6 Hdi GT 2DR a/c,cd,abs,alloys,cl,ew,f/s/h,met paint	£8995
07 57	Ford Mondeo 2.0 Edge 5dr abs,ew,cl,a/c,f/s/h,met paint	£5495
11 11	Kia Ceed 1.4 VR-7 5dr Special Edition alloys,a/c,cd,abs, met paint,f/s/h	£8995
10 60	Honda Insight 1.6 SE-CVT-Hybrid 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,1 owner,f/s/h	£7995
10 60	Kia Rio 1.4 Domino 5dr alloys,abs,cl,ew,met paint,1 owner,f/s/h	£5995
09 09	Ford Focus 1.6 Zetec –S 5DR alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£8695
09 09	Hyundi i20 1.2 Dsl 5DR alloys, ac, cd, ew, met paint,f/s/h	£6495
12 12	Ford Fiesta 1.6 S-1600 3dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,leather trim,special edition	£11995
12 61	New Ford focus 1.6 5dr titanium, fsh, cruise, ew, cd, Bluetooth,alloys	£11495

DIESELS

13 13	New Model Kia Proceed 1.6 Tdci Se –Ecodynamics 3dr 1 owner great spec	£16995
03 52	Ford Fusion 1 1.4 Tdci 5dr a/c,cd,cl,ew,met paint,1 owner,f/s/h	£2995
12 62	Ford Fiesta 1.4 Tdci Zetec Climate 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,f/s/h	£10495

09 59	Ford Focus 1.8 Tdci Zetec-S 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,bodykit	£6995
10 60	BMW 320Dsl Spoert Business Edition 4dr " Great Specification "	£11995
11 11	Ford Fiesta 1.6 Tdci Titanium 3dr alloys,a/c,cl,ew,abs,f/s/h,1 owner	£8995
12 62	New Ford Focus 1.6 Tdci Zetec Climate 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs, met paint	£12495
12 61	Ford Focus 1.6 Tdci Titanium –X 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£14995
10 60	Vauxhaull Meriva 1.3 Cdti S 5dr a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,f/s/h	£7995
10 60	Peugout 308 1.6 Hdi Sport 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint,f/s/h	£8995
11 61	New Focus 1.6 Tdci Zetec Climate 5dr one owner,f/s/h, only 6 k miles	£11995
10 60	Ford Mondeo 2.0 Tdci Titanium 163 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs, met paint	£10995
09 09	Ford Focus 1.6 Tdci Zetec Climate 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£6995
12 62	New Kia Ceed 1.6crdi Level 2 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs, 7 year warranty	£13495

MPV, ESTATE & 4X4

13 13	New Kia Sportage 1.7 crdi Level 2 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met	£18995
11 11	New Ford Gsalaxy 2.0 Tdci Zetec Powershift 5dr MPV 7 Seater, f/s/h	£14495
07 07	Renault Scenic 1.6 vvti Dynamique 5dr MPV alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew	£3995
07 57	Ford S-Max 2.0 Tdci Titanium 5dr MPV 7 seater,pan roof,cd,a/c,alloys	£9995
04 54	Vauxhaull Zafira 1.6 16v Energy 5dr MPV 7seater alloys,a/c,cd,abs, ew	£2995
11 11	Kia Sportage 1.7 Crdi Level 2 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl, met paint,f/s/h	£16495
10 60	Ford Focus 1.8 Titanium Estate 5dr alloys,roof rails,cd,abs,cl,ew,	£9695
11 11	Ford Mondeo 2.0 Tdci Titanium 5dr Estate alloys,a/c,cd,abs, met paint	£12995
05 05	Hyundai Tuscon 2.0 CRTD CDX 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£5995
11 11	Nissan Juke 1.6 Premium Accenta 5dr alloys.a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met	£11995
06 06	Ford C-Max 1.6 tdci Style 5dr MPV a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£4995
13 13	Kia Sportage 2.0 crdi KX-2 AWD 5dr alloys,ac,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	£20995
05 55	Audi A4 1.9 tdi Avant 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,full audi service history	£6495
13 13	New Kia Ceed 1.6 Dsl auto Level 3 sw 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,7 yr warr	£15995

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		WAS	NOW
13 Reg	Skoda CitiGo, SE 3dr 1.0 Petrol HBK, FSH, 3366mls	£7995	£7795
13 Reg	Skoda Fabia Greenline Est 5dr 1.2 Diesel EST, FSH, 7006mls	£10495	£9995
13 Reg	Skoda Octavia, VRS Blackline 5dr 2.0 Diesel EST, 7013mls	£17995	£17495
13 Reg	Skoda All New Octavia, Elegance 5dr 2.0 Diesel HBK, 7594mls	£18995	£18495
13 Reg	Skoda Superb, S Greenline II 5dr 1.6 Diesel HBK, 11241mls	£12995	£12495
13 Reg	Skoda Yeti, Elegance 5dr 2.0 Diesel HBK, FSH, 8018mls	£17995	£17495

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61 Reg	Fiat Doblo, Eleganza 5dr 1.6 Diesel MPV, FSH, 4424mls	£8995
60 Reg	Ford Fiesta, Edge 3dr 1.25 Petrol HBK, FSH, 13472mls	£6995
09 Reg	Ford Fiesta, Zetec S 3dr 1.6 Petrol HBK, FSH, 26893mls	£8495
61 Reg	Ford Fusion, Titanium 5dr 1.6 Petrol EST, FSH, 4681mls	£8795
12 Reg	Ford Focus, Zetec 5dr 2.0 Diesel HBK, FSH, 7918mls	£12995
61 Reg	Ford Focus, Zetec 5dr 1.6 Petrol HBK, FSH, 29260mls	£9795
62 Reg	Ford Focus, Zetec 5dr 1.6 Diesel HBK, FSH, 12277mls	£13495
08 Reg	Ford Focus, Titanuim 5dr 1.8 Diesel HBK, FSH, 31921mls	£7495
57 Reg	Honda Jazz, SE 5dr 1.2 Petrol HBK, FSH, 23044mls	£5295
57 Reg	Honda Civic, ES 5dr 1.8 Petrol HBK, 32926mls	£6795
60 Reg	Peugeot 207, Sport 5dr 1.6 Diesel HBK, FSH, 28042mls	£7295
11 Reg	Renault Clio, GT Line TomTom 3dr 1.2 Petrol, HBK, FSH, 10904mls	£7695
10 Reg	Skoda Fabia, 1 5dr 1.2 Petrol HBK, FSH, 28836mls	£4995
11 Reg	Skoda Fabia, SE 5dr 1.2 Petrol EST, FSH, 32145mls	£7995
58 Reg	Smart FourTwo, Passion AUTO 2dr 1.0 Petrol CPE, FSH, 23006mls	£4995
07 Reg	Vauxhall Corsa, Club 5dr 1.2 Petrol HBK, FSH, 36483mls	£4295
58 Reg	Vauxhall Agila, Club 5dr 1.3 Diesel HBK, FSH, 31449mls	£5295
10 Reg	Volkswagen Golf, S 5dr 1.6 Diesel HBK, FSH, 61800mls	£8295

JUST ARRIVED

04 Reg	Ford Fiesta, Ghia 5dr 1.4 Petrol HBK, 39963mls	£3295
09 Reg	Ford Focus, Titanuim 5dr 1.6 Petrol EST, FSH, 37108mls	£7495
56 Reg	Vauxhall Corsa, Club A/C 3dr 1.4 Petrol HBK, FSH, 48544mls	£3995

COMING SOON

11 Reg Skoda Yeti, SE 4X4 5dr 2.0 Diesel HBK, FSH, 15555mls	£15995

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Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the range of Kia models shown are, Highest KIA Sportage 'KX-2' 2.0 161bhp, A6: Urban 26.6 (10.6), Extra Urban 41.5 (6.8), Combined 34.4 (8.2) CO_2 emissions are 195g/km. Lowest KIA Picanto 3-door 'City' 1.0 68bhp, M5: Urban 52.3 (5.4), Extra Urban 78.5 (3.6), Combined 67.3 (4.2) CO_2 emissions are 99g/km. MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. 7 year /100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. For terms and exclusions visit kia.co.uk or see your local dealer. Prices correct at time of going to press and specification is subject to change without notice. OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vehicle First Registration Fee. Retail customers only. Subject to availability on vehicles registered between 01 October and 31 December 2013. **Business users only, figures exclude VAT. *4.9% APR available on Kia Conditional Sale on all models. 10% minimum deposit required on cee'd models only. Maximum term of 36 months. Offer not available in conjunction with any other offer. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. 18's or over. Guarantees / Indemnities may be required. Kia Motors Finance RH1 1SR. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Customer savings vary by model derivative. Ask your dealer for full details. †£99 insurance applies to Kia Picanto 'City', Picanto 5-dr '1 Air', Rio '2', cee'd '1' and cee'd Sportswagon '1' and is available from Kia Motors Insurance Services for drivers aged 21-80 at participating Kia dealers only. Subject to standard underwriters terms and acceptance criteria. Eligibility criteria for this offer also applies; go to kia.co.uk/insurance for full details. The £99 offer is restricted to a maximum premium of £1,500. For any premium over this amount, the customer must pay the difference. Kia Motors Insurance Services is arranged and administered by Equity Direct Broking Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Financial Services Register number 490061. Models shown for illustration purposes only.

Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

Grade II former vicarage includes two-bed cottage

On the market with McCartneys, The Old Vicarage, Penybontfawr, is a Grade II listed former vicarage with a detached cottage within walking distance of the village shop, primary school, church and pub.

The detached property has glorious views, and is priced at offers in excess of £500,000.

The main house has five bedrooms (master ensuite), while the cottage, which has a separate access from the road; would make an ideal holiday let.

The house has an entrance hall, drawing room, kitchen/dining room, scullery, rear hall, living room, cloakroom, study/potential sauna, cellar, master bedroom ensuite, four further bedrooms, a further ensuite, bathroom.

The cottage has a porch, kitchen/dining room, wet room, living room, study, two bedrooms and a bathroom.

The property is approached from the road onto a drive leading to a parking and turning area in front of the house, where there is also a lawn bordered by mature hedging. A gateway to the side of the house gives access to the side and rear which has a lawn, vegetable patch and more parking space to the front of the cottage.

The side garden has a useful summer house/workshop and a greenhouse.

Further outbuildings include a garden store and a large storage/wood store which is attached to the cottage.

For further information contact McCartneys on 01938 531006 or visit www.fineandcountry.com

Period village property packed with character

Wesley House at Churchstoke is a spacious detached family home in a pleasant village location.

With a wealth of original features including exposed beams, a stone inglenook and a bread oven, it is priced at £234,500. There is an entrance hall, ground floor cloakroom/w.c, dining room, sitting room, conservatory, inner hallway, kitchen/breakfast room with large pantry, side entrance hall, further hallway, office/study, utility room, three bedrooms, bathroom, driveway, garage, oil-fired central heating, double glazing and attractive gardens lying mainly to the front and side.

Call Halls on 01938 555552 or visit www.hallsestateagents.co.uk

Family semi on market with no upward chain

For sale at a guide price of £114,950 with no upward chain, number 7 Sycamore Fields, Maesbury Marsh, near Oswestry, is being marketed through Woodhead Estates.

It has a living/dining room, kitchen with built-in oven and hob, conservatory, and outbuilding housing the oil-fired central heating boiler along with a wc, wash basin, worktops and plumbing for washing machine. There are gardens to front and rear, driveway parking and a car port, with open fields to the rear.

For further information contact Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044 or visit www.woodheadestates.com

01691 659951 www.samuelwood.co.uk

Halls 01691 670320 www.hallsgb.com

james&co 01691 657077 www.jamesandcoproperty.co.uk

J. J. DELL & Co. 01691 653437 www.jjdell.co.uk

01743 343343 www.parrylowarch.co.uk

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Halls 1845

A most spacious FOUR bedroom detached dormer bungalow with large gardens & garage.

- 4 Bedroom (2 Master Suites)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Garage & Ample Parking
- Gardens
- UPVC DG & CH
- Current EPC Rating D

Cabin Lane, Oswestry

Price: £259,950

Contact Oswestry

An excellent example of a fine Tudor/ Elizabethan family home, quaint, romantic and full of historical character. This property is secluded but not isolated.

- 4 Double Bedrooms
- 3 Reception Rooms
- 3 Detached Barns (One With Planning Permission)
- Stable Block & Approx 6 Acres
- Picturesque Location
- Current EPC Rating G

Plas Nant-Y-Meichiaid, Llanfyllin

Price: £585,000

Contact Oswestry

This deceptively spacious detached cottage dates back to the 1700's and offers spacious accommodation and benefits from a half acre plot.

- 3 Double Bedrooms
- 3 Receptions & Conservatory
- Easy Access To A483
- Oil Central Heating
- Gardens & Parking
- Current EPC Rating F

The Poplars, Porthywaen

Price: £270,000

Contact Oswestry

This handsome property stands elegant in its own 3½ acres of flat pasture land with stunning views to the hills.

- 3/4 Bedrooms
- 2/3 Reception Rooms
- Workshops
- Attached Barn
- Believed To Be Over 200 Years Old

Tynewydd, Llanfechain

Price: £550,000

Contact Oswestry

An exciting opportunity to purchase a unique dwelling offering two properties for sale with an immense amount of character and charm situated in the picturesque Tanat Valley.

- Situated In 0.75 Of An Acre
- Main Property - 3 Bedrooms
- Attached School House - 3 Bedrooms
- Solid Oak 'Heritage' Carport & Parking
- Viewing Recommended

Old School House & School House, Penybontfawr

Price: £427,500

Contact Oswestry

This detached family home benefits from lovely views of the open countryside and is situated in a popular cul de sac location in a semi rural location.

- 3 Bedroom Detached
- Garage & Parking
- Gardens & Views
- Oil CH
- Requires Modernisation
- Current EPC Rating E

Mount View, Llanfechain

Price: £179,950

Contact Oswestry

This three bedroom detached cottage is situated down a quiet country lane close to the village of Llanrhaeadr and only 11 miles from Oswestry.

- 3 Bedrooms (Master & En-Suite)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Dating Back To Approx 1850
- Original Features
- Oil Central Heating
- Current EPC Rating E

Cefn Glaniwrch Cottage, Llanrhaeadr

Price: £219,950

Contact Oswestry

A two bedroom character cottage situated in the hamlet of Pont Faen with superb views.

- 2 Reception Rooms
- Stands In Over Half An Acre
- Garage & Workshop
- Extended By Current Vendors
- Viewing Recommended
- Current EPC Rating E

Wagoners Cottage, Pontfaen, Chirk

Price: £249,950

Contact Oswestry

This three bedroom semi detached property is situated in a popular residential area within walking distance to Whittington Castle and the playing fields.

- 3 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gardens To Front & Rear
- Parking
- Current EPC Rating C

Fitzgwarine Drive, Whittington

Price: £154,950

Contact Oswestry

A most well appointed two bedroom retirement bungalow situated on a purpose built development offering additional care facilities if required.

- 2 Bedrooms
- Lounge / Dining Area & Conservatory
- Garage & Parking
- Private Garden & Communal Gardens
- Viewing Advised

Meadowbrook Court, Gobowen

Price: £107,500

Contact Oswestry

This detached bungalow is slightly elevated to appreciate the views to the hills in the distance.

- 3 Double Bedrooms
- Oil Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Detached Garage & Parking
- Requires Some Updating
- Current EPC Rating D

Old Post Office Lane, Trefonen

Price: £229,950

Contact Oswestry

An immaculate executive style family home overlooking parkland situated in a quiet residential area. This property is in excellent decorative order throughout and has been improved by the current owners to provide a most comfortable family home.

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite
- 3 Reception Rooms

Kingfisher Way, Morda

Price: £299,950

Contact Oswestry

A unique detached equestrian family home with annex set in excess of 9 acres and featuring a range of useful outbuildings, stabling, workshops, garaging and barn.

- 4 Bedrooms To Main House With 2 En-Suites & Dressing Rooms
- 3 Bedroom Annex
- Country Lane Position
- Range Of Outbuildings
- Set In Excess Of 9 Acres
- Current EPC Rating D

The Slades, West Felton

Price: Offers over £825,000

Contact Oswestry

Dating back to 1899, this is a most unique and versatile property standing in extensive grounds of just under half an acre.

- 3/4 Bedrooms
- 3/4 Receptions & Conservatory
- 3 Attic Rooms
- Extensive Grounds
- Garden Stores
- Current EPC Rating E

South Lodge, Park Hall

Price: £350,000

Contact Oswestry

An individually designed spacious detached family home offering four bedrooms and four reception rooms.

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 4 Reception Rooms
- Set In 1.13 Acres
- Oil CH & DG
- Semi Rural Hamlet Location
- Current EPC Rating D

Westview, Hengoed

Price: £300,000

Contact Oswestry

A RECENTLY RENOVATED detached two bedroom bungalow situated in a quiet cul de sac location, a short walk from Oswestry town centre.

- 2 Bed Detached Bungalow
- Detached Garage & Parking
- Easy Maintenance Gardens
- Gas Central Heating
- Secondary Glazing
- Current EPC Rating D

Greenbank Close, Oswestry

Price: £149,950

Contact Oswestry

This Georgian style family home of character situated in the picturesque Tanat Valley with paddock and outbuildings.

- 4 Bedrooms
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Detached Barn & Garage
- Approx 1 Acre
- Oil CH & DG
- Current EPC Rating E

Glanhafon Uchaf, Penybontfawr

Price: £250,000

Contact Oswestry

A delightful barn conversion and family home which has kept the integrity of the original building with original features.

- 3/4 Bedrooms
- 1 With En-Suite & 1 With Dressing Room / Office
- 2 Receptions & Open Plan Family Dining Kitchen
- Approx 2 Acres Of Land
- Detached Barn & Parking
- Current EPC Rating C

Penyllan Barn, Coed Y Go

Price: £435,000

Contact Oswestry

Head Office	01743 450700	Shrewsbury Auction Centre	01743 462620	Shrewsbury	01743 236444
Bishops Castle	01588 638755	Ellesmere	01691 622602	Oswestry	01691 670320
Kidderminster	01562 820880	Welshpool	01938 555552	Whitchurch	01948 663230

Associated Office at Worcester 01905 611066

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www.hallsgb.com

WINE & DINE

Chocolate meets its match with wine

Ahead of National Chocolate Week, SAM WYLIE-HARRIS masters the art of chocolate and wine pairing

SOME of us may not need a special occasion to indulge in the sweeter things in life - but in the meltdown to National Chocolate Week, running from Monday until October 20, vino lovers have the perfect excuse to double their pleasure.

Delicious and mood boosting, uncorking a dark label to compliment the flavours of our favourite treat engages the senses with its taste and aromas; and finding the right combo feels like a little 'hello from heaven' with every delectable sip.

In fact, with the trend for chocolate boutiques and artisan chocolates, cocoa and wine pairings are becoming more fashionable.

But contrary to popular belief, champagne and chocolate are not natural bedfellows.

Instead, save the fresh, dry bubbles for savoury snacks and discover how fine, dark chocolates suit inky, full-bodied reds. Creamy milk chocolate tastes divine with a sweet moscatel, while white chocolate and fruit and nut selections come into their own with a glass of sherry.

To satisfy those cocoa cravings and enhance your drinking pleasure, here are some suggestions to grace the wine rack. Carmenere is Chile's calling card and when the rich, spicy, savoury flavours of this grape are blended with cabernet sauvignon and a splash of shiraz, reds such as Estevez Cabernet Sauvignon Carmenere 2011, Valle de Maule, Chile (£4.99, Aldi) take on a soft, ripe, earthy mouthfeel with a lick of spice, firm tannins and with alluring aromas of cocoa, this a wine to enjoy with dark chocolate bars.

Chocolate goes perfectly with wine.

A couple of notches up the scale, Marques de Casa Concha Carmenere 2010, Chile (£11.95, **www.winedirect.co.uk**) is from a reliable producer with consistently good wines.

Pure carmenere in all its rich, ripe, unadulterated glory, the wine spends 16 months in French oak, which gives it a soft cushioning and an ample core of blackcurrant and plummy fruits laced with dark chocolate, vanilla notes and a long, lush, velvety finish.

To help celebrate National Chocolate Week, the folks at Lindt have teamed up with a master of wine to create some delicious pairings, and a Chilean merlot was voted the best match with Lindt Excellence 70% Cocoa.

Dominant

For a warm-fruited, delicious example that's merlot dominant and topped up with carmenere and cabernet sauvignon, try Concha Y Toro Trio Merlot 2012, Chile (£8.50, **www.slurp.co.uk**) which displays all the right spiced dark fruit, choc notes with smooth tannins on the expressive brambly berry finish.

For a tasting adventure that can't be pinned to one specific type of chocolate, Rubis Chocolate Wine, Spain (£13, 70cl, **www.harveynichols.com**) can be enjoyed at room temperature, poured over ice, used in cocktails, measured into your favourite chocolate recipe and even used to cook with red meat.

And for the sweetest ending, tipplers drawn to tawny dessert wines will find the fresh, luscious floral fruit in Moscatel de Setubal, Bacalhoa 2009, Portugal (£10.70, 75cl, **www.tanners-wines.co.uk**) adds a honeyed twist to white chocolate truffles. Behind a veil of sweet apricot, there are some underlying chocolate and raisin notes in this fruity moscatel which should be served lightly chilled.

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Have you arranged your corporate Christmas celebrations this year?
Christmas Parties at The Venue are renowned for their great atmosphere, quality food and competitive prices. We are currently taking bookings for both our Bowling Party nights and Disco Party nights.
£5 OFF per person. When you book before the 1st of November
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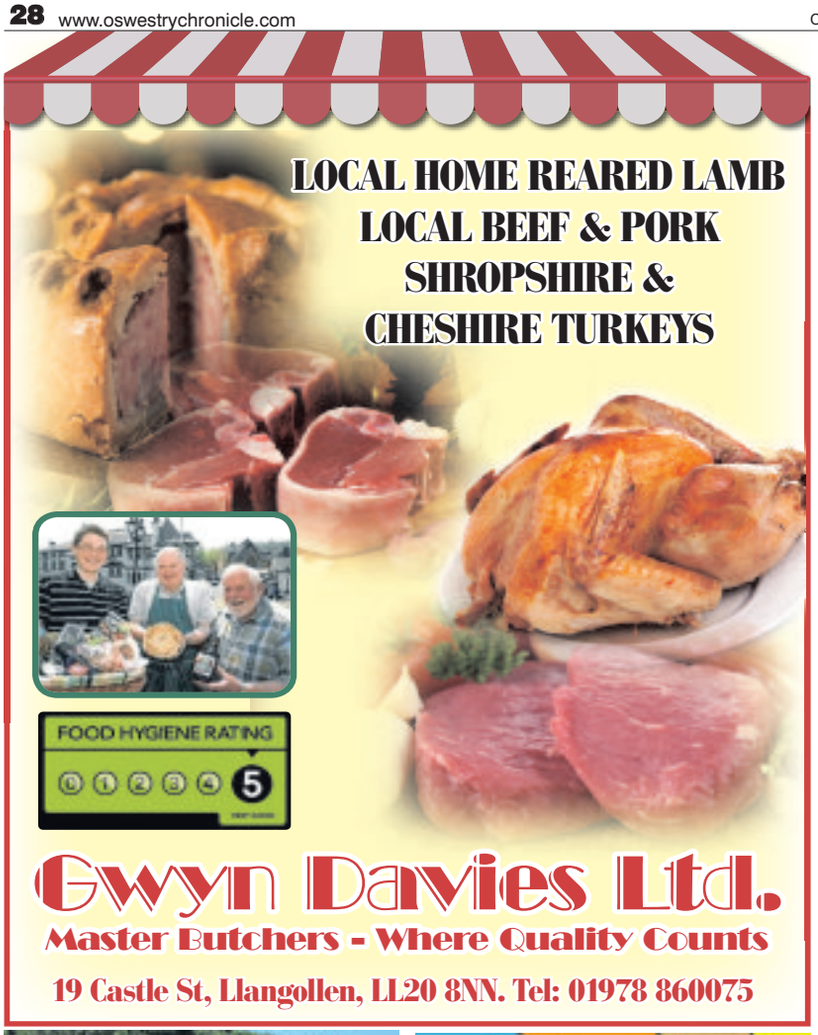


LLANGOLLEN

Sweet and savoury treats for all events

Alan and Anne Crump run The Crumperie, a business inspired by family holidays in France.

THE Crumperie is a family-run business whose founders are passionate about producing delicious authentic crêpes.

Alan and Anne Crump make use of local and seasonal produce to delight visitors and guests at events around Shropshire, Cheshire, and Wales.

"When our children were small, we enjoyed long summer holidays in France experiencing the wonders of the local weekly markets. This is where our love of crêpes began," said Alan.

Living abroad for eight years has inspired the flavours and textures of the couple's modern menu. Returning to live in Ellesmere means they can celebrate some of the fantastic local ingredients on offer in their delicious Crumperie crêpes.

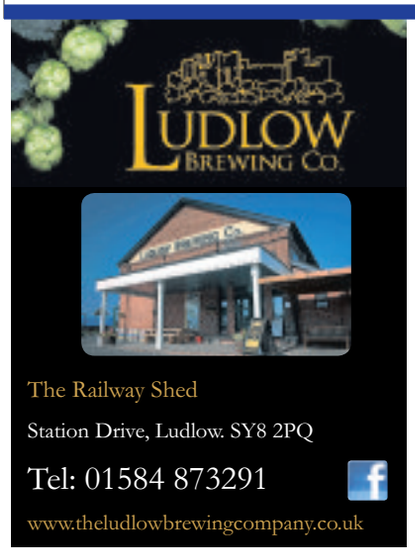
Advertisement feature

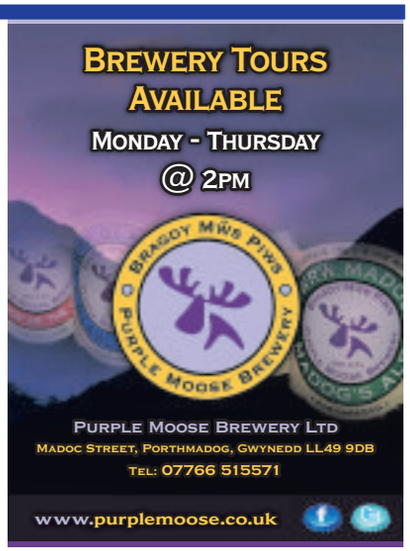
"We can add a really special touch to your event by personalising our menu," said Alan. Full Steam Ahead is our savoury breakfast crêpes for Vintage events and for the festive season we will be offering a Christmas Combo of smoked bacon, melted brie and cranberry sauce."

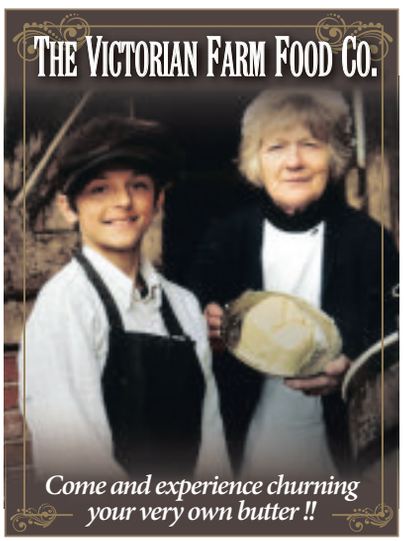
For parties and weddings The Crumperie offers exclusive use of their crêperie and expert chef who will freshly cook and serve as many crêpes as you desire.

Alan said: "Our simple pricing structure for private parties is highly competitive starting at just £4 per head."

Contact The Crumperie on (01691) 622314, text 07807 107238, e-mail **crumperiecrepes@gmail.com** or call at 8 Birch Road, Ellesmere, SY12 0ET.







LLANGOLLEN

Chance to win tickets for food festival

Rob Price, from Cadwyn Clwyd, with Colin Loughlin and Gwyn Davies.

THE picturesque town where Wales meets the world will be the culinary capital of the UK for a whole weekend.

There to greet all the foodies at Hamper Llangollen 2013, on October 19 and 20, will be a trio of top chefs.

The Oswestry and Border Counties Chronicle has teamed up with the festival to offer readers the chance to win one of five pairs of tickets.

Graham Tinsley, the star of ITV's Taste the Nation, will be joined in the show kitchen by International Escoffier Challenge winner Dion Jones, who works at celebrity chef Simon Rimmer's Earle restaurant, in Hale, and Harri Williams, of Conwy, from the Ellenborough Park Country House Hotel in Cheltenham.

Hamper Llangollen is celebrating its 16th anniversary at Llangollen Royal International Pavilion, the home of the International Eisteddfod, and that's music to the ears of award-winning local butcher Gwyn Davies.

He said: "People come from as far as the other side of Birmingham which means we are reaching a whole new group of customers."

One of the main driving forces behind the re-born festival is businessman Colin Loughlin, chairman of the local committee that runs the event, supported by the rural development agency, Cadwyn Clwyd.

Cadwyn Clwyd's contribution came via the Rural Development Fund for Wales 2007-2013, which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Welsh Government.

Robert Price, Cadwyn Clwyd's agri-food project officer, said: "I can't imagine that any other food festival in the UK has a more beautiful setting."

Among the produce featured this year will be the macaroons of Karma-Sucre, filled with delights like home-made lemon curd, passionfruit coulis and salted caramel using Anglesey Sea Salt. James and Natasha Shepherd have revived Britain's oldest biscuit, the Aberffraw, from Anglesey, traditionally made in the shape of scallop shells and featured on The One Show.

For your chance to win a pair of tickets to Hamper Llangollen just tell us which Welsh island Britain's oldest biscuit is from. Answers via e-mail to: **news@oswestrychronicle.co.uk** by no later than 10am on Wednesday, October 16.

HAMPER LLANGOLLEN

Gŵyl Fwyd | Food Festival

Dydd Sadwrn a Sul • Saturday and Sunday

HYDREF 19-20 OCTOBER 2013 10am - 5pm

Pafiliwn Llangollen Pavilion LL20 8SW

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www.llangollenfoodfestival.com

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Welcome to Llangollen Brewery

Here at Llangollen Brewery, we only use the finest ingredients and local underground water source to produce our distinctive Country Ales. Our family run Brewery has kept alive the historical tradition of brewing in Llangollen.

Llangollen Brewery is located in the heart of some of the most beautiful countryside in the British Isles. A few yards from the Craft Brewery is Eliseg's Pillar, a memorial erected by a former Prince of Powys over 1,000 years ago. Five minutes walk brings you to the lovely ruins of Valle Crucis Abbey, founded in 1201, and less than 2 miles away, set on the banks of the River Dee, is the small but bustling town of Llangollen.

Llangollen Brewery
Horseshoe Pass Road, Lhantysilo,
Llangollen. LL20 8DD
Tel:01978 861916
www.llangollenbrewery.com

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OMPAD 06/13-1

Market Street, Llanfyllin

£390 PCM £550 Deposit

Mid-terraced townhouse with kitchen, bathroom, 2 bedrooms, sitting room, on street parking. Standard tenant application fees are £150 plus VAT, plus bank status enquiry fee will be charged separately by the bank. Contact us for further information.
EPC rating F

Please call 01691 655334

Oswestry Town Centre

£365 PCM £550 Deposit

Newly refurbished apartment with bedroom, kitchen, living room, bathroom, electric heating. Standard tenant application fees are £150 plus VAT, plus bank status enquiry fee will be charged separately by the bank. Contact us for further information.
EPC rating TBC

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Fawnog Terrace, Llansantffraid

£445 PCM £600 Deposit

Charming end terrace c
2 bedrooms, bath
fees are £150
enquiry fee will be charged separately by
the bank. Contact us for further information.
EPC rating G

APPLICATION RECEIVED

Please call 01691 655334

Maesbury Marsh, Oswestry

£410 PCM £600 Deposit

Mid-terraced cottage with two bedrooms, bathroom with shower, kitchen, sitting room, living room, gardens and parking.Standard tenant application fees are £150 plus VAT, plus bank status enquiry fee will be charged separately by the bank. Contact us for further information.
EPC rating E.

Please call 01691 655334

Oaklands Road, Chirk Bank

£575 PCM £650 Deposit

A semi detached property with a pretty garden, three bedrooms and family bathroom, sitting room with log burner, kitchen and parking. EPC rating tbc. Standard tenant application fees are £150 plus VAT, plus bank status enquiry fee will be charged separately by the bank.
EPC rating C

Contact us for further information.

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2 Bed Apartments – Open plan living and dining area with fully fitted kitchen, master ensuite, family bathroom, floor to ceiling glazing, double height spaces and balconies.

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2 Bed Apartment £115,000

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RICS

NEW

Barber Close Oswestry £184,995

- A well appointed and deceptively spacious 4/5 Bedroom, 3 Storey Townhouse
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, well fitted Kitchen/Dining Room, Utility Room, Study/Bedroom 5, Lounge
- 2 Bedrooms and a Bathroom with 2 further large Bedrooms (master en-suite)
- A paved patio area to the rear and a lawned garden to the side
- Single garage and driveway, Gas C/H and uPVC D/G. EPC Rating B

MORDA Oswestry £470,000

NEW PRICE

- A substantial Double fronted Georgian style property retains a host of original features, has been extensively modernised by the current owners
- Recently fitted Kitchen, Drawing Rm, Study, Sun Rm, Utility Rm, Cellars, 4 large Beds, Family Bathrm & Separate Shower Rm. EPC Rating F
- Substantial stone/brick built outbuildings which could be used for a host of future uses (subject to planning consents). Further brick built Building is currently used as a Games Rm
- Standing in an elevated position overlooking landscaped gardens with views, large patio, extends to approx 0.72 acre (0.29 ha)

Price On Application

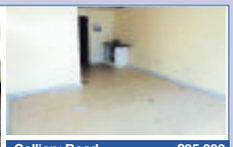
Pentre Aaron Weston Rhyn

- A rare Agricultural Investment opportunity comprising a block of accommodation land extending to 15 acres (6.07 ha) or thereabouts conveniently located just off the A5/A483 between Oswestry and Weston Rhyn
- The land is currently laid to pasture but would accommodate a host of arable or fodder crops
- The land is sold subject to a 1986 Agricultural Holdings Act Tenancy. For further details please contact the Selling Agents Oswestry office on (01691) 652367.

GUIDE PRICE EXCESS £4000 PER ACRE

LAND AT LLANSANTFFRAID £4,000

- 48.88 acres (19.70 ha) or thereabouts of pastureland and woodland situated just outside the village of Llansantffraid
- Located next to the Rivers Vyrnwy and Tanat
- Good access onto the A495
- Offers a host of future Agricultural, Equine or Recreational opportunites
- FOR SALE BY INFORMAL TENDER AS A WHOLE OR IN LOTS. TENDERS TO BE SUBMITTED BY 12 NOON ON FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2013



NEW

Colliery Road Chirk £35,000

- An excellent opportunity to purchase a shop unit extending to approximately 292 sq ft situated in the centre of the busy border town of Chirk.
- The property forms part of a recently completed development and benefits from a shop area with window frontage, a kitchen area and a Disabled WC.
- The unit should be of interest to those looking to set up a new business or relocating an existing business. Alternatively it would make an excellent investment opportunity.

NO CHAIN

Pant £160,000

- A deceptively spacious 3 bedroom detached bungalow with basement garage all set within terraced gardens with excellent views over the surrounding countryside. ● Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Large Conservatory, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom and Shower room.
- The large terraced gardens lead upto woodland, ample off road parking.
- The property benefits from uPVC windows and Oil central heating. EPC Rating F

NO CHAIN

Narrow Street Llanfyllin £89,995

- A rare opportunity to purchase a 3 Storey Mid-Terrace Property
- The property retains a host of original features throughout
- Lounge, Kitchen on the ground floor with extensive cellars below
- Bedroom and bathroom on the first floor
- Further Bedroom and Study/Bedroom 3
- Small courtyard garden to rear and Gas C/H. EPC Rating F

NO CHAIN

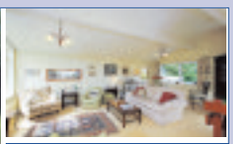
Albert Road Oswestry £97,000

- A deceptively spacious two bedroom Mid-Terrace property situated within walking distance of the town centre of Oswestry
- An open plan Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen, two Double Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Courtyard garden providing an ideal outdoor entertainment area together with a large storage shed
- Gas C/H and double glazing throughout. EPC Rating D

NO CHAIN

Gyrn Road Selattyn £209,995

- A recently completed 4 bedroom family home in the popular village of Selattyn
- Ent Hall, Ground Floor Shower Room, Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Rm, Utility
- Master Bedroom (en-suite) & 3 further Bedrooms and a Family Bathroom
- Private, low maintenance gardens & off road parking
- uPVC double glazing and Oil C/H throughout. EPC Rating B

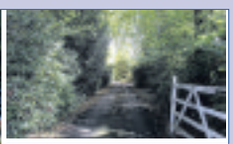


Morda Close Oswestry £375,000

- Spacious family home in the established residential area of Morda Close
- Dining Room is adjoined by Kitchen, Pantry, Utility & Shower Rm
- Rear Ent Hall, Garden Room, 3 Double Bedrooms & Family Bathroom
- Spacious Lounge with large windows overlooking the gardens, covered balcony
- An 'L' shaped rm currently used as a Study/Bedrm with storage space
- Landscaped gardens with mature shrubs & trees providing privacy
- Gas C/H, EPC Rating D

The Wood Maesbrook £179,950

- A most comfortably appointed and spacious Detached Bungalow
- Situated in an idyllic rural position adjacent to open countryside
- Ent Porch, Entrance Hall, Sitting Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Conservatory, Two Bedrooms, Shower Room. Double glazing
- Large garden with double garage, greenhouses and store sheds
- EPC Rating E



NO CHAIN

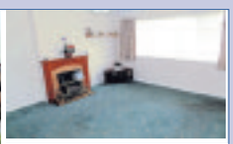
Queens Road Oswestry £445,000

- A rare opportunity to purchase a fine Detached Late Victorian House offering well proportioned accommodation, set in mature gardens
- Drawing Room, Sitting Room, Dining Room, Garden Room, Conservatory, Open plan Kitchen and Breakfast Room, Utility Room, Cloakroom
- Separate WC, 5 Bedrooms, En-suite to Master Bedroom and Dressing Room to Bedroom 3 and Cellar. Gas C/H. EPC Rating F

NO CHAIN

Llanforda Rise Oswestry £229,950

- A most spacious and comfortably appointed Detached Dormer Bungalow situated within a premier residential area within the town and convenient to all facilities
- Ent Porch, Wide Entrance Hall, Large Sitting Rm, Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, 2 Ground Floor Bedrooms or one bedroom and a Dining rm
- Box Room, 2 Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom & Separate WC
- Delightful lawned gardens to fore & rear, parking for several vehicles together with a garage. D/G, Oil C/H. EPC Rating E



NO CHAIN

Vyrnwy Road Oswestry £119,950

- A well appointed Two Bedroom Semi-Detached Bungalow situated close to the town centre of Oswestry with a good size terraced garden to the rear
- Entrance Hall, Fully Fitted Kitchen (with appliances where stated), Lounge, Conservatory
- Two Bedrooms, Shower Room, driveway and carport
- uPVC double glazing, Gas C/H. EPC Rating D

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the new Mazda6 Range: Urban 36.2 (7.8) – 55.4 (5.1). Extra Urban 57.6 (4.9) – 78.5 (3.6). Combined 47.9 (5.9) – 67.3 (4.2). CO_2 emissions (g/km) 136 – 108.

The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results.

Retail sales only, subject to vehicle availability for vehicles registered between 01.10.13 and 31.12.13 at participating dealers. T&C apply. ~5.9% finance available on all new Mazda6 models. Finance subject to status. 6+ over. Guarantee/Indemnity may be required. Mazda Financial Services RH1 5SR. Channel Islands excluded. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Model shown: New Mazda6 Saloon 150ps Sport Diesel. OTR from £25,195. Model shown features optional Soul Red Metallic paint (£660). OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, first registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European roadside assistance. Test drives subject to applicant status and availability. Details correct at time of going to publication and may vary, e.g. if list price changes. Not available in conjunction with any other offer unless specified. †On selected models only.

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Mazda Range: Urban 25.4 (11.1) - 55.4 (5.1). Extra Urban 45.6 (6.2) - 78.5 (3.6). Combined 35.3 (8.0) - 67.3 (4.2). CO_2 emissions (g/km) 188 – 108.

The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU-regulated test results obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results.

Retail sales only, subject to vehicle availability for vehicles registered between 01.10.13 and 31.12.13 at participating dealers. T&C apply. *0% finance available on all Mazda2 and Mazda MX-5 models. Examples shown: Mazda2 1.3 5dr TS Air Con. £169 per month with an Optional Final Payment of £3,402 and Mazda MX-5 1.8i SE Air Con. £275 per month with Optional Final Payment of £4,964 are based on 9,000 miles per annum over 42 months on Mazda Personal Contract Purchase and includes dealer contribution. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (i) Renew: Part exchange the vehicle, where equity is available, (ii) Retain: Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to the condition of the vehicle. Finance subject to status, 18s or over. Guarantee/Indemnity may be required. Mazda Financial Services RH1 5SR. Channel Islands excluded. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Models shown: Mazda2 1.3 5dr TS Air Con, OTR from £10,995 and Mazda MX-5 1.8i SE Air Con, OTR from £18,495. OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, first registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European roadside assistance. Test drives subject to applicant status and availability. Details correct at time of going to publication and may vary, e.g. if list price changes. Not available in conjunction with any other offer unless specified.

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Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) Highest: FORD Focus 2.0 EcoBoost (250PS) 5 Door , M6: urban 28.5 (9.9), extra urban 50.4 (5.6), combined 39.2 (7.2). Officia CO_2 emissions 169g/km.
Lowest: FORD Focus 1.0 EcoBoost Stop-Start (125PS) 5 Door: urban 44.8 (6.3), extra urban 67.3 (4.2), combined 56.5 (5.0). Official CO_2 emission 115g/km. *Finance subject to status. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Freepost Ford Credit. Facility fee (where applicable) is payable with first payment. Deposit allowance only available when financed with Ford Credit. Purchase fee (where applicable) is payable with GMFV if you wish to own the vehicle at the end of the agreement. Terms and conditions apply, please ask for full details. **Retail only. Finance subject to status. Guarantees/Indemnities may be required. 35 monthly rentals £199. Advance rental £4,776. Mileage per annum 9,000. Excess mileage charge 5.58p per mile. Ford Personal Lease is provided by ALD Automotive Ltd, trading as Ford Lease. You will not own the vehicle at the end of the agreement. For full terms, conditions and specification please refer to the Ford Lease Master Agreement and your Ford Dealer. This supersedes all previously advertised manufacturer's promotions. ^^Motability scheme offers subject to terms and conditions, please ask for full details. †Free insurance terms & conditions: First year insurance offer only available on Ka Studio Connect through Ford Insure, subject to normal underwriting and eligibility criteria. Available to drivers over 21 who have held a valid full UK licence for over 1 year. Other terms and conditions apply. Not available in conjunction with any other insurance offer. Vehicles shown for illustration purposes only.

Estate hitches up with top caravan award

The Škoda Superb Estate has driven off with the prestigious 2014 Caravan Club Towcar of the Year title – along with three individual category victories.

The new Octavia repeated the multiple successes of its predecessor, with the 1.2 TSI SE 105PS hatch model named best towcar in the £16,000 - £20,000 category. The judging panel singled out the Octavia's pulling power for special praise, commenting: "For such a little engine, the Octavia breezed around the hill route."

The recently refreshed Superb Estate Elegance 2.0 TDI CR 170PS 4x4 DSG not only triumphed in the £25,000-£31,000 category, it was also named the winner in the All-Terrain Under 1,800kg category and awarded overall Towcar of the Year.

The judges were impressed by the Superb Estate's all-round ability, saying: "With a loading limit of 100kg on the roof, 80kg on the towball and a boot that scored maximum marks, it's a very tough act to follow. You wouldn't know you were towing a caravan!"

Delighted

Announcing the award winners, Grenville Chamberlain, Caravan Club chairman, added: "The club extends its congratulations to all the winners in this competition. Special acclaim goes to the terrific Škoda Superb, which demonstrated that it was just about as good as it gets."

Commenting on the latest awards, Alasdair Stewart, brand director for Škoda UK said: "We're delighted to receive these important awards from the Caravan Club. At Škoda, we're always working hard to meet the needs of caravan owners and understand the unique requirements that go into making a great towcar."

Škoda has enjoyed success in previous awards, having won the overall title in 2010 for the Superb, and scored category victories for the Fabia, Yeti and Octavia

Citigo-go-go! Skoda's urban car is a winner

By Sharon Walters

The Citigo is another one of the genre of city cars that increasingly appear to dominate our urban landscape.

I get why you need them – small, economical, practical and all other great words used by public relations departments to convince us that as responsible drivers we should consider the environment. But, most of the city cars I have driven have left me totally cold in the enjoyment department.

Do you remember, not that long ago when you actually went for a drive for the sheer pleasure of driving? I do, and living in rural Shropshire with some great roads I was already contemplating what excuses I could make for not really driving the Citigo anywhere.

Practical

However, as a road tester, drive it I had to. The first surprise was the fact that it was a five-door car.

Why surprising? Well most city cars don't seem able to pull the four-door trick without making a massive compromise, usually in the looks or practicality department. Not in this case, it just looks well proportioned. And from a practical point it is easy to get in and out of the back without having to be a trained contortionist.

Sitting on 14inch alloys, the Citigo also looks the part and for a change it appears that the wheels were not an afterthought.

This avoids the odd feeling of the body being perched on top of wheels that are too small for the rest of the car, as so often found with others in the genre.

Interior wise you get the usual standard of fitments that you have come to expect from Skoda. I liked the central speedo with the small rev counter – practical and funky.

The test car was also fitted with the PID (Portable Infotainment Device), suspended on its own bracket off the top of the dash which has sat nav, media player and a great trip computer that reminds me of the old terratrip units fitted to rally cars many years ago. The seats are comfortable and even though they had similar adjustment to the Rapid, I didn't suffer with any discomfort and they supported my body effectively.

So to the driving experience. The 1 litre engine is a three cylinder affair that kicks out around 75 bhp and accelerates the car from 0-60 in a shade more than 13 seconds.

While this doesn't sound particularly impressive, the way the engine revs coupled with the excellent five-speed gearbox means that you can get a move on with relative ease. Although the engine does need to be revved to get the best out of it, this has the added bonus of providing you with a three cylinder soundtrack which I loved.

Made for town, but the Citigo is quite at home in the country

The PID device is a handy information attachment

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Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the ŠKODA Yeti Adventure 2.0 TDI 140PS 4x4 and 2.0 TDI 110PS 2X4 respectively: Urban 43.5 (6.5) and 44.1 (6.4), Extra Urban 55.4 (5.1) and 64.2 (4.4), Combined 50.4 (5.6) and 55.4 (5.1). CO_2 emissions for the Yeti Adventure 2.0 TDI 110PS and 2.0 TDI 140PS 4x4 respectively: 149 and 134g/km. Standard EU Test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

On the Road

Style, technology and now an attractive finance package for the Mercedes A-Class

New deals make A-Class an option

Building on the continued popularity of the A-Class in the UK – the model is now even more affordable thanks to attractive new finance offers.

Combining style with versatility and cutting-edge technology, the A-Class is available from £249 per month on Agility Personal Contract Purchase (PCP), and comes with three years free servicing if registered before December 23.

The A-Class isn't the only Mercedes-Benz to benefit from new offers.

The C 180 Executive SE Saloon is now available for £285 per month. The strong value continues with the new-look E 220 CDI SE Coupé and Cabriolet – part of the most extensive model revision ever undertaken by Mercedes-Benz – now available for £399 per month. Alongside a completely revised appearance – COMAND Online with Media Interface, DAB radio and Collision Prevention Assist – are fitted as standard.

smart continues to lead into the final quarter with the 'edition 21' – aimed at saving hundreds of pounds for younger drivers over the age of 21 through zero per cent APR, one year's free insurance and payments from £79 per month on Agility PCP.

smart's two-wheeled hybrid vehicle, the smart ebike, is available for £59 a month with zero per cent APR.

Cool for cars – Merc rises in brands list

Mercedes-Benz again features prominently in the annual CoolBrands list, ranked 11th from more than 10,000 independently-identified brands in the 2013/14 survey.

The company's position shows a climb of five places over its 2012 CoolBrands debut, and is the highest position of any "full-line" automotive brand – describing a car company with a wide range of models. The outright winner was Apple.

Fashion

The CoolBrands list, now in its 12th year, follows a vote by a combination of 3,000 consumers and a panel of 37 designers, style experts, media personalities and prominent figures from the worlds of TV, fashion and music.

Helping rate coolness this year were the likes of TV chef Gizzi Erskine, musicians Laura Mvula and Charli XCX, Bestival founder Rob da Bank and model Daisy Lowe.

This year, Mercedes-Benz has delivered a wealth of new models to UK customers including: The new A-Class compact hatchback; compact CLA four-door coupé; New E-Class family; GL-Class SUV; the stunning new S-Class luxury saloon. The exciting GLA compact SUV will arrive in spring 2014.

Marcus Breitschwerdt, president and CEO Mercedes-Benz UK, said: "Mercedes-Benz is breaking one sales record after another in the UK – we're the fastest-growing premium manufacturer, and AMG is the UK's fastest-growing high performance brand.

"Our showrooms around the country are full of the coolest cars we've ever made, and we're tireless in our efforts to bring more innovation, style – and great service of course – to more customers than ever before."

Urban chic – Mercedes has moved up five places since making the list last year

Breitschwerdt continued: "It's really great to see that as well as attracting more new customers to our brand, our efforts have been identified by a panel of expert judges and 3,000 consumers."

Stephen Cheliotis, Chairman of the CoolBrands Expert Council, said: "The brand qualities we examine in the CoolBrands survey – such as authenticity and innovation – can be key influences on consumer purchasing, so performing well is not just a thumbs up for a brand's reputation, but an indication of its future success."

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13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Iridium Silver Auto,PanRoof,18AW,BlckAshWd,HS	£36,677.50	£28,577.83
13/63	C250CDI Saloon AMG Sport Obsidian Black Auto,PanRoof,6CD,Media,DAB	£36,332.50	£28,329.43
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Obsidian Black Auto,SplitRSts,IntelLights,HS	£36,112.49	£28,171.03
13/63	C250CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Polar White Auto,PanRoof,HS	£35,902.49	£28,019.83
13/63	C220CDI Estate AMG Sport Plus Palladium Auto,HS	£35,357.50	£27,627.43
13/63	C250CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Tenorite Grey Auto,BlackAsh,HS	£35,357.49	£27,627.42
13/63	C220CDI Estate AMG Sport Plus Tenorite Grey Auto	£35,337.50	£27,613.03
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Magnetite Auto,Leather,18s,HS,BlackAsh	£35,327.50	£27,605.83
13/63	C250CDI Saloon AMG Sport Iridium Silver Auto,PanRoof	£35,217.50	£27,526.63
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Obsidian Black Auto,18AW,BlckAshWd	£34,997.50	£27,368.23
13/63	C220CDI Estate AMG Sport Plus Polar White Auto	£34,692.50	£27,148.63
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Cavansite Blue Auto,BlackAsh,HS,Grey Leather	£34,667.50	£27,130.63
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Tenorite Grey Auto,6CD,Media,HS	£34,602.50	£27,083.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Iridium Silver Auto,HS	£34,467.50	£26,986.63
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Palladium Auto,HS	£34,467.50	£26,986.63
13/63	C200CDI Estate AMG Sport Plus Iridium Silver Auto	£34,262.54	£26,839.06
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Palladium Auto,PanRoof	£34,177.50	£26,777.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Palladium Auto,HS	£34,157.50	£26,763.43
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Obsidian Black Auto,HS	£34,157.50	£26,763.43
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Iridium Silver Auto,HS	£34,157.50	£26,763.43
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Diamond Silver Auto, yyyy,	£34,137.50	£26,749.03
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Palladium Auto	£34,137.50	£26,749.03
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Tenorite Grey Auto	£34,137.50	£26,749.03
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Diamond Silver Auto	£33,827.50	£26,525.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Iridium Silver Auto	£33,827.50	£26,525.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Tenorite Grey Auto	£33,827.50	£26,525.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Cavansite Blue Auto	£33,827.50	£26,525.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Iridium Silver Auto	£33,827.50	£26,525.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Iridium Silver Auto	£33,827.50	£26,525.83
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13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Iridium Silver Auto	£33,827.50	£26,525.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Obsidian Black Auto	£33,827.50	£26,525.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Obsidian Black Auto	£33,827.50	£26,525.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Obsidian Black Auto	£33,827.50	£26,525.83
13/63	C250CDI Saloon AMG Sport Polar White Auto,HS	£33,552.50	£26,327.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Polar White Auto,HS	£33,512.50	£26,299.03
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Polar White Auto	£33,492.50	£26,284.63
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Polar White Auto	£33,492.50	£26,284.63
13/63	C180CGI Estate AMG Sport Plus Palladium Auto,HS,Privacy	£33,502.50	£26,296.03
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Iridium Silver Auto,SplitRSeat,HS	£33,407.50	£26,223.43
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Diamond White Auto	£33,307.50	£26,151.43
13/63	C200CDI Saloon Executive SE Diamond Silver Auto,GreyLeather,HS,Walnut	£33,237.51	£26,101.04
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Diamond Silver Auto,HS	£33,157.50	£26,043.43
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Obsidian Black Auto,HS	£33,157.50	£26,043.43
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Magnetite Auto,HS	£33,157.50	£26,043.43
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Iridium Silver Auto	£32,827.50	£25,805.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Iridium Silver Auto	£32,827.50	£25,805.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Iridium Silver Auto	£32,827.50	£25,805.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Obsidian Black Auto	£32,827.50	£25,805.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Iridium Silver Auto	£32,827.50	£25,805.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Iridium Silver Auto	£32,827.50	£25,805.83
13/63	C220CDI Saloon AMG Sport Iridium Silver Auto	£32,827.50	£25,805.83
13/63	C200CDI Estate AMG Sport Fire Opal Auto,PrivacyGlass	£32,637.51	£25,669.04
13/63	C200CDI Saloon AMG Sport Obsidian Black Auto,SplitRSeat	£32,002.50	£25,211.83
13/63	C180CGI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Iridium Silver Auto,HS	£31,662.50	£24,971.23
13/63	C180CGI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Fire Opal Auto,6CD,Media,HS	£31,467.50	£24,830.83
13/63	C180CGI Saloon AMG Sport Plus Obsidian Black Auto,	£31,332.50	£24,733.63
13/63	C180CGI Saloon AMG Sport Obsidian Black Auto,HS	£30,662.50	£24,251.23
13/63	C200CDI Saloon Executive SE Iridium Silver Man	£28,252.50	£22,511.83

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Mercedes-Benz

*Savings against manufacturers list price. Highest saving is £8,570.07 available on the C220 CDI AMG Sport Estate. Prices are correct at time of going to print October 2013 and are subject to change without notice. Photographs for illustration purposes only.

Accolades keep rolling in

Hot on the heels of their highly impressive win in the prestigious Vauxhall Professionals League, Arthurs Vauxhall has scooped another accolade – a best-ever performance for used car sales.

The award-winning Vauxhall dealer, with branches in Oswestry and Newtown, last month won its area in the Vauxhall Professionals League, which recognises the best performing teams across the whole of the Vauxhall network.

Arthurs were area winners not only for their sales performance, but equally important the achievement with their customer satisfaction scores which gave them their best-ever result.

Immediately following on from that celebration, the two branches have now achieved further success with sales of nearly new Network Q Vauxhall cars.

Craig Huxley, assistant sales manager at Arthurs Vauxhall Oswestry, commented on how pleased the team were to have broken all records during the months of July, August and September.

Tremendous

He said: "The market for new and used Vauxhall cars over the last few months has been absolutely tremendous. Not only have we cemented our position as the leading retailer of new Vauxhall cars – demonstrated by our area win in the Vauxhall Professionals League – but we have also broken all records with sales of newly new Vauxhall cars.

"These cars are purchased by both the Arthurs Oswestry and Newtown branches direct from Vauxhall and are delivered in first class condition ready to put straight on to our used car display areas."

Craig said: "One of the attractions of buying nearly new Vauxhall cars direct from the manufacturer is the fact that we can obtain some higher specification models at exceptionally competitive prices.

"Many senior Vauxhall managers choose higher spec cars when selecting their own company vehicle. Another attraction of these cars is that generally they have not been mistreated – they have only been used by drivers in 'suits.'

"With the very aggressive marketing offers currently available from Vauxhall, the manufacturer is acutely aware they need to price nearly new cars with significant savings over the cost of new in order to keep these cars flowing through the system.

Craig Huxley says Arthurs has higher specification models at exceptionally competitive prices

Mark Evans says Arthurs has recruited a new experienced and professional technician

"Every three months Vauxhall sets dealers a target for the purchase of nearly new cars and during the last three months Arthurs Vauxhall has performed extremely well.

"We have exceeded the Vauxhall target by 61 per cent which equates to 95 nearly new Vauxhalls being purchased from Vauxhall during this period.

"Of the 95 vehicles purchased from Vauxhall, around 20 per cent were light commercials including vans and minibuses and most recently a couple of Movano drop-sided tipper vehicles."

Craig further revealed: "Over the last few weeks we have seen a growing interest in buying higher specification Insignia diesel models. This is partly due to the tremendous savings on these models which result in them representing excellent value for money.

"And on an even more positive note we have seen a significant number of customers with other prestigious brands purchasing the Insignia. Many of them comment to us on the quality and value for money of the nearly new Insignia models."

He said a further development had been the number of customers who had specific requirements and Arthurs Vauxhall had been very pro-active in sourcing cars to customers' specific needs.

Craig continued: "Arthurs is confidently expecting the demand for used cars to continue and, in particular, we expect an increase in demand for 4x4 models.

"Since the new Antara was launched in 2011 we have seen class-leading levels of quality in this model and our sales this year are running at around four times the national average.

"Most recently Arthurs has purchased around a dozen nearly new Antaras which were being offered at extremely keen prices. We expect the take-up of these models to remain high over the next few months."

He added: "What we are also finding in our area is growing interest in 4x4 technology. People living in rural parts of Shropshire and Mid Wales are influenced to buy 4x4s and the Antara continues to be considered by more and more people in the Arthurs territory."

Mark Evans, service manager at Arthurs Vauxhall Oswestry, said one of the benefits of Arthurs' significant increase in sales over the last couple of years had been the service department. He said this not only applied to Oswestry, but Newtown where Dan Bray was Arthurs Vauxhall service manager.

Mark said: "As a result of continuing demand, we have recruited a new experienced and professional technician and if the trend continues – and we remain as busy as at present – we fully expect to take on a further technician in the coming months.

Competitive

"We are seeing an increasing number of customers using our service department because of the competitive offers we have available. This includes a fixed price service on most Vauxhall models at only £129 including VAT."

He also announced that Arthurs was experiencing unprecedented sales of tyres since introducing this service to customers in recent times.

"Our tyre sales this year have gone up a staggering tenfold and the reason is simple: we have really focused on them. We have introduced new pricing offered by our suppliers which allows us to price-match tyres.

"We also have the added expertise of Dan Bray in Newtown who has had previous experience of tyre retailing.

"As a consequence, many customers are surprised when we quote them for tyres and they find we are cheaper for the same tyre than national fast-fit centres."

Mark added: "We are expecting to further grow our service customer database in the future by constantly offering highly competitive servicing deals along with high levels of customer satisfaction."

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO_2 emissions: 373 - 88g/km.#

Available on selected models only, at participating Retailers. Refer to www.vauxhall.co.uk/offers or contact your local Vauxhall Retailer for details. Finance subject to status. Terms and Conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Finance supplied by Vauxhall Finance, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Offer will apply to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1- 24 (purchase only, excluding B2B supported units). All other customers are excluded. **Vauxhall Deposit Contribution may vary and excludes ADAM, Mokka, Cascada and New Insignia (MY14) models. We can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission maybe received. ◊Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and Conditions apply. Offers available on orders or registrations before 16 December 2013. #Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.

On the Road

Beefcake BMW set to make its mark

By Ian Donaldson

Early BMW coupes were little more than two-door versions of the company's four-door saloons. You can't say that of the latest one; it oozes beefcake style in every direction.

Bigger and much bolder to look at, it even has a new name: 4 Series, to distance the car from the 3 Series saloons and estates it's based on in the places you can't see.

The outgoing 3 Series coupe was a big hit with British buyers, who bought nearly 50,000 of them in its seven-year life. And BMW thinks the new one will sell better here than in its native Germany.

The current three-strong coupe range costs from £31,575 to £38,295 but will soon be joined by versions with larger and smaller engines and, for the first time, all-wheel drive xDrive models for a £1,500 premium.

Heart

At £2,385 more as a coupe, with fewer doors and (only) a little less practicality than the saloon it owes its oily bits to, this is a car that sells more to the heart than the head. It also costs £540 more than the outgoing coupe but comes with added standard kit worth £1,475.

So it's just as well that, to these jaded eyes anyway, that the new 4 Series is a car worth a second glance. It adds visual muscle compared to a 3 Series saloon wherever you look, but especially at the front and rear, where both seem to have been injected with automotive steroids.

It's one of those cars that looks fast, standing still with the engine turned off. Press the 'go' button on the dash and it pretty well lives up to all that visual promise, even with the diesel under the bonnet that BMW expects to take one in three sales in the UK.

Lots of those will be to company car user choosers, who will relish the way that every version of the 4 Series is kinder to the environment than its predecessor, and so kinder on its user's tax return.

The BMW 4 Series coupe with its bold looks. Prices start from £31,575

Inside the 4 Series, where all controls are well placed for the driver

BMW continues to demonstrate how much life is left in conventional petrol and diesels, without recourse to expensive batteries and electric motors.

Inside the 4 Series you'll find plenty of space for a quartet of adults, who will enjoy only a little less headroom in the rear compared to the comparable saloon, and there's a huge boot out back, too.

The view ahead for the driver is pretty well neat 3 Series saloon (with a few trim tweaks to lift the ambience), so that means a much more severe approach to the serious business of driving than you'll find in an Audi, for instance. It all works impeccably, though, with everything where you expect to find it – and a conventional handbrake, thank goodness.

The 2.0-litre engine pulls strongly from walking pace and never raised its voice, even during long spells in fourth gear over some deliciously tempting, and empty, Highland roads. Something just short of 46mpg for the drive wasn't too shabby either.

My car came with optional clever suspension (£750) and was a bit bouncy in its comfort setting but controlled and not too firm in sport. Big wheels and tyres mean the car sticks firmly on the corners but it feels more a grand tourer with sporty intentions than an out-and-out thrill-seeker.

That's unlikely to bother the thousands of owners who in the years ahead will enjoy the looks and solid driving pleasure of this new line of BMWs.

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DY63VZH	F11 520d M Sport Touring N47 2.0	Glacier Silver metallic	Black / Black Dakota leather with Exclusive	£32,950	Including Service Inclusive
DY63VPO	F11 520d M Sport Touring N47 2.0	Alpine White	Dakota Black Leather	£34,450	Including Service Inclusive
DY63VPF	F11 520d M Sport Touring N47 2.0	Glacier Silver metallic	Dakota Black Leather	£34,950	Including Service Inclusive
DU63YKG	F10 530d M Sport Saloon N57 3.0	Carbon Black	Black / Black Dakota leather with Exclusive	£38,950	Including Service Inclusive
DY63ECF	F11 525d M Sport Touring N47 2.0	Space Grey	Black / Black Dakota leather with Exclusive	£39,750	Including Service Inclusive
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DY63WNH	E71 X6 xDrive40d N57 3.0	Space Grey	Oyster Nevada leather	£43,950	Including Service Inclusive
DV63AXF	F25 X3 xDrive30d M Sport N57T 3.0d	Carbon Black	Black Nevada leather	£44,950	Including Service Inclusive
DY63KFX	F01 730d M Sport N57 3.0d	Black Sapphire	Ivory White/Black Dakota Leather	£46,950	Including Service Inclusive
DU63YKW	E71 X6 M50d N57 3.0	Carbon Black	Beige Nevada leather	£52,950	Including Service Inclusive
DX63XHC	F13 640d M Sport Coupe N57 3.0d	Alpine White	Dakota Black Leather	£56,950	Including Service Inclusive
DY63ZNL	E71 X6 M50d N57 3.0	Carbon Black	Ivory White/Black Exclusive Nappa leather	£60,950	Including Service Inclusive
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There are numersious benefits to using this system to insulate your home, or business. From a health prospective your air sealing your property which can help reduce dangers of respiratory distress - allergies, asthma, and certain chemical sensitivities can be caused by natural airborne irritants. This system will also help protect against mold growth - minimizing the flow of random airborne moisture entering your home.

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deaths

DAY

Herbert Francis

(Dick)

Beloved Husband of Sallie, Father to Roger and Michael. Dick passed away very peacefully in The Vyrnwy Nursing Home on Monday, October 7, 2013.

The Funeral Ceremony will be private.

All inquiries please to

AUBREY KIRKHAM
Funeral Directors,
Frankwell Island,
Shrewsbury.
01743 368999

acknowledgements

EAST

William

(Bill)

Diana and Family would like to thank Family and Friends for all their kindness and support during Bill's illness. Thank you for so many messages of sympathy, for attending the Celebration Service and donating such kind and generous donations, which were to Dementia UK (£147) and the Severn Hospice (£140).

Thank you especially Elaine Mitchell, Registrar of Whitchurch Registration Service for her excellent address.

Special thanks to The Co-operative Funeralcare for their attention to detail and friendliness at such a trying time.

ROYLE

Jano

Jano's Family would like to thank Family and Friends for all their messages of sympathy, for the attendance at the Funeral Service, which took place at West Felton Church.

Donations received for Dementia UK and St Michael's Church totalled £448.

Special thanks to Dr Das, Rev Tony Sparham, David Davies and Sons, Funeral Directors, The Woodlands Nursing Home and The Court Nursing Home.

Greenfield Road

Bridgnorth

MAZEAU

Margaret Doreen

Sylvia and Dennis Pittman, Mr Glyn Jones and the Family of the late Mrs Margaret Mazeau wish to express their sincere thanks to all Relatives, kind Friends, Neighbours and former Colleagues for the cards, letters, emails and other kind messages of sympathy, love and prayers received at this very sad and difficult time, for your attendance at the Funeral Service and for your donations, which are being received for and will be divided between Cancer Research UK and the Parish Church of SS Peter and Paul, Tasley, Bridgnorth.

Your wonderful support has been greatly appreciated by us all.

Special thanks to her Doctors, to the Staff at Bridgnorth Medical Practice and to Doctors and all Staff at The Princess Royal Hospital NHS Trust at Telford and to the Doctors and all Staff at The Royal Shrewsbury Hospital NHS Trust for your care and kindness to Margaret throughout her illness, to Ebenezer's Florists for the beautiful floral tributes, to all at the Punchbowl Inn, for your hospitality and for looking after everyone so well afterwards and to the Reverend John Webb and Organist Stephen Lomas for leading us in a most uplifting Celebration of Margaret's life.

Thank you all.

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Family Announcements

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ST MARTINS PARISH COUNCIL

VACANCY FOR A PARISH CLERK

The Council is seeking to appoint a Clerk due to the retirement of the present Clerk /Responsible Financial Officer to St Martins Parish Council. Applications are invited by 26th October Interviews will be held on Wednesday 20th November, and a handover (three months from January 2014) and initial training will be arranged by the retiring clerk. The post-holder will be required to work from home and have a full driving licence and the use of a motor vehicle.

The salary is based on 17 hours per week. The hourly rate will be calculated according to NALC's recommendations depending upon qualifications and/or experience.

Applicants should be either CiLCA qualified or prepared to study toward this, which the Parish Council will support.

Attendance is required at the Parish Council Meetings held in the evening on the 2nd Thursday in every month, and at other meetings arranged as necessary throughout the year.

For this varied position candidates must be computer literate and have internet access; ideally they should have previous experience working as a Parish Clerk and/or have knowledge of Local Government, although training can be provided. Candidates should be prepared to undertake continued development training throughout their period of employment.

As Clerk you will be responsible for preparation of agendas, taking of minutes, correspondence, dealing with emails, liaising with contractors and other areas of local government, management of accounts to include keeping of cash book, bank reconciliations, preparation of budgets, VAT returns, PAYE, organising audits etc. You will have responsibility for ensuring correct procedures are followed and advising the Parish Council to ensure that it acts within its powers. The ability to communicate well at all levels is essential.

An application form, job description and further details can be obtained from the Chairman of the Council, Councillor Helen Williams on 01691 777561 or email helenwilliams@237gmail.com OR Sue Crow on 01691 655385; email clerksmpc@dsl.pipex.com

Applications must be on the prescribed form. Please include your cv. These must be returned to Councillor Williams by 26th October

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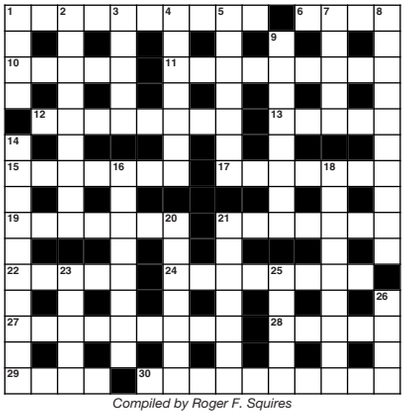

Compiled by Roger F. Squires

ACROSS

1 It retains its faculties (10)
6 Ones that become experts (4)
10 Submit to delay, perhaps (5)
11 Its message is a grave one (9)
12 Standards are judged by them (8)
13 There's a moral in the thickness of thieves (5)
15 Gives away a secret fruit (7)
17 Generous provision for Braille (7)
19 Aims to show where campers are to be found? (7)
21 Unwritten maxims (7)
22 Brush or brushwood (5)
24 It controls the movement in a tank (4,4)
27 He works his fingers to the bone (9)
28 Write pieces when penniless (5)
29 Exhaust seen on American car (4)
30 Likely candidates are named on them not long before contests (5,5)

DOWN

1 Free from any sound of disturbance (4)
2 He doesn't keep his intelligence to himself (9)
3 Regret the flier doesn't have a head start (5)
4 Fields of activity he gets a mixed press about (7)
5 A number walk wearily around - it's hard work (7)
7 Fabric of the church? (5)
8 Quiet address is smaller (10)
9 New order may bless the meeting (8)
14 He ruins the drink and the game (10)
16 Palmistry manual? (8)
18 Rush over to meet (3,6)
20 Workers may break it (7)
21 Matchmaker (7)
23 It's essential to a helicopter coming up or down (5)
25 Intriguing bunch of politicians (5)
26 Olympian getting up for port (4)

LAST WEEKS RESULTS

Across: 1 Washer, 4 Asterisk, 9 Ribbed, 10 Gather in, 12 Rare, 13 Brace, 14 Data, 17 Bridging loan, 20 Coping stones, 23 Ajar, 24 Acute, 25 Otto, 28 Monsoons, 29 Fag-end, 30 Corsages, 31 Strays.

Down: 1 Wardrobe, 2 Suburbia, 3 Ekes, 5 Searchlights, 6 Echo, 7 Inroad, 8 Kenyan, 11 Frankincense, 15 Aglow, 16 Waits, 18 Anathema, 19 As good as, 21 Tarmac, 22 Wagner, 26 Iota, 27 Part.

Mural by store is set to be unveiled

THE train now standing outside Wilkinson's store in Oswestry... has been joined by passengers waiting on a platform opposite.

Created by artist Jim Heath, from Chirk, the 52ft (15.8m) long and 13ft (3.9m) high station design has been painted onto a blank wall in Herbie Roberts Way.

The giant mural, named *Great Expectation*, will be officially unveiled on Saturday to coincide with the fourth birthday of the town's Footfall project.

The mural was designed to complement *New Tracks* – a train design which runs along New Street opposite Wilkinson.

Both giant murals were commissioned by the Footfall project.

Steve Haworth, chairman of the Footfall committee, said: "The first mural proved to be a big hit with train enthusiasts across the country and has turned what was an uninspiring blank wall into a masterpiece showcasing Oswestry's heritage.

"Luckily for us, because we live in Oswestry, the hub and headquarters of the Cambrian Railway between 1864 and 1923, this seed was able to grow and has now become these two fantastic murals, to be enjoyed by all who visit our town."

The unveiling will take place at noon.

Cemetery may close if wall stays in disrepair

A CEMETERY in a rural village could be forced to close if funding can't be found to carry out urgent repairs to a boundary wall.

The warning was given by the Parochial Church Council of St Michael the Archangel, Llanyblodwel, after it was discovered that part of the churchyard wall is at risk of collapsing into the neighbouring cemetery.

By Graham Breeze

The cost of repairs, which will have to be carried out by a specialist, is expected to be more than £3,000.

Sally Humphreys, benefice administrator, said: "Parts of the wall have collapsed completely but the most pressing part is a 20-metre section next to the new cemetery where one section is in danger of falling into the new cemetery.

Deteriorates

"If the wall deteriorates further this winter then the PCC may have no option but to suspend burials and close the new cemetery to the public until finances can be found to repair this section of wall."

The damage has been caused by the recent very cold winters. The repairs are even more essential after it was revealed earlier this week that councils across Shropshire are facing a battle to find new burial plots, with some areas only having space for the next five years.

Maintenance work in the churchyard is carried out jointly by Llanyblodwel Parish Council and the PCC, with the wider community carrying out regular tidy-up days.

But as St Michael's is a listed building, specialist techniques have to be used to repaired the wall using hydrated lime mortar.

The repair work is expected to cost £3,050 and the parish council has applied to the St Oswald and Llanymynech Local Joint Committee for funding towards the work.

The LJC, due to meet on Tuesday, is expected to approve a grant of £1,000 towards the cost of the works.

St Michael's PCC has to apply to the church diocese for permission to carry out the repairs before work can begin.

Among those laid to rest in the cemetery is former Oswestry MP John Biffen.

Lord Biffen, who was the local MP from 1961 to 1997, lived in Llanyblodwel, and died in 2007.

Charity presents defibrillator to college

Lucy Beaumont, Anne Wilson and Petrina Jones with the new defibrillator at Walford College in Oswestry.

A CHARITY has presented life-saving equipment to a college in Oswestry.

A defibrillator will be installed at the Oswestry campus of Walford and North Shropshire College thanks to the cardiac charity SADS (Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome) UK's Big Shock campaign.

And the college's fundraising has meant that a second defibrillator can be bought for the Walford Campus near Baschurch.Lucy Beaumont, assistant director of the college, said: "We want to ensure all our learners and staff are as safe as can be in college and that we can deal with any eventuality which may arise.

"We hope the defibrillator is never needed. But by having it installed, it certainly gives everyone peace of mind." Fundraising activities included a fun day at the Oswestry campus, a car boot sale and a student barn dance.

The barn dance, at the Walford Campus, was a major event attended by more than 400 students which raised £1,500 for the fund.

Lyn Battams, learner mentor, who helped students Dan Smith, Andrew Roberts and John Wainwright, plan the barn dance, said: "It's wonderful to see the students take responsibility for this end of year event."

NEWS in brief

Royal approval for stamp designs

A SEVEN-year-old from Oswestry will have his entry into a Royal Mail Christmas stamp competition judged by Prince Charles.

The three kings design by Oliver Miller is one of 24 national finalists of the stamp design competition.

Over 240,000 children entered and he is one of two artists in the Midlands to have qualified for the finals, which will be judged by Prince Charles.

Oliver drew his entry in art class at Moreton First School, and has won £500 for the school and £500 for himself.

When asked how he intended to invest his money he replied: "I think I'll buy a Bentley."

Checkers keeps prestigious star

A MONTGOMERY restaurant has retained its Michelin star for a third year.

Sisters Sarah and Kathryn Francis, from Trefonen, and Sarah's partner Stéphane Borie said they were delighted that Checkers retained its status as one of just three eateries in Wales to be bestowed the prestigious award.

Mr Borie's spent seven years with Michel Roux at The Waterside Inn Bray, where he met Sarah. He went on to Le Manoir Aux Quat Saisons and as private chef to Sir Anthony Bamford.

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NEWS

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Licence warning to scrap dealers

SCRAP metal dealers in Mid Wales have been warned they must be registered with Powys County Council or face losing their licence.

The authority says the new Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 ensures only people who have been properly vetted can lawfully collect, buy or sell scrap metal.

The act also gives the council more powers, including the ability to refuse a licence or revoke licences.

There are two licences depending on what business the dealer undertakes.

A site licence is required for business that take in scrap metal or vehicles, while a collector's licence is for those who operate a scrap collection business, for example, door to door or from businesses and then sell it to scrap yards or motor salvage yards.

The council's cabinet agreed the new fees at a meeting this week, with a new site licence costing £348 and a renewal £258.

Meanwhile a collector's licence will cost £310 and a renewal will cost £248.

Those who are registered with the council have to submit an application before October 15 and can continue to trade while their application is considered. Those registered but who do not apply on or before October 15 will not be able to trade after October 16.

Threatened school fights back to win good report

A PRIMARY school which fought off the threat of closure a year ago has been awarded a 'Good' rating by inspectors.

Llangedwyn Church in Wales Primary School was visited by Estyn inspectors – the Welsh equivalent of Ofsted – in July.

Headteacher Sarah Chandler said she was delighted by the findings of the report.

She said: "The hard work of the governors, staff and children has been recognised through this report. This is especially significant following the recent threat of closure under Powys modernisation plans, which was successfully fought against throughout 2011 and early 2012.

"One of our key strengths that was recognised is the dedication of everyone involved with the school.

"The standards of pupil attainment, especially those of a higher ability and those with special needs was also praised, as was the child focused approach to learning, positive and cohesive staff team, and strong pupil voice.

"We are delighted that the devotion and commitment of the pupils, community, staff and governors has been recognised. This ensures that Llangedwyn Church in Wales Primary School has a safe and secure future in the heart of the Tanat Valley."

In their report, inspectors described the school as "a happy community with a family atmosphere where all pupils are valued fully."

The high standards of behaviour and "interesting learning experiences" were also highlighted.

The inspectors recommended that pupils should have better opportunities to use their writing and numeracy skills across the curriculum, and suggested that teachers should have more opportunities to become involved in professional learning communities.

Pupils celebrated their good report by holding an open afternoon with strawberry tea last Thursday at the school, and released biodegradable balloons sold for £2 each to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

by Pam Griffin

Straw house bid at centre

AN unusual house could soon be built near Oswestry as part of a display of eco-friendly homes.

Timby Sustainable Homes Ltd is hoping to build a straw house at Moreton Park garden centre at Gledrid.

But unlike the Three Little Pigs' home, the straw bale house will be strong, weatherproof, warm and surprisingly economical.

The house will be part of a display of show homes built by Timby, which also includes conservatories and a large wooden chalet. Brian Daure, from Timby, said the straw bale home was one of four new sustainable show homes he is planning to put up over the next few months.

"We're planning to build a timber frame home, another in oak, the straw bale home and another a very modern building," he said.

He added that depending on planning permission he hopes to begin building the straw bale house at the start of December.

Pooches on parade for hospice

Vanessa Thomas from Hope House Children's Hospice receives a cheque from pupils Amelia Peterson, 12, and Nick Yeoward, 13, with dogs Millie and Logie.

SCHOOL pupils have presented a cheque to Hope House Children's Hospice after holding a charity dog show during the summer.

The show was held at Packwood Haugh School in Ruyton-XI-Towns and raised more than £500 for the charity.

More than 50 families and their dogs took part in a variety of games and challenges at the dog show in the school grounds. Obstacles were negotiated, biscuits were swallowed in record time, balls were retrieved and long-suffering dogs were dressed up in an assortment of costumes.

Packwood deputy headmaster Nick Jones, who organised the event with his wife Jane, said: "The overriding aim is to have as much fun as possible and we certainly achieved that. To also raise some funds for charity was very satisfying"

Vanessa Thomas, head of fundraising at Hope House, was handed the donation at the school assembly on Tuesday.

Politician helps out as milk monitor

A POLITICIAN swapped his duties in the Westminster for those of the milk monitor during an event at a nursery school.

Glyn Davies, Conservative MP for Montgomeryshire, visited Forden Playgroup, near Welshpool, in support of World School Milk Day and handed the children their daily milk as part of the event.

The day is organised by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations and is celebrated in over 30 countries.

Mr Davies said milk has many health benefits for children as it contains nearly all the vitamins and nutrients of importance to humans, including over half of a child's daily intake of calcium which is vital to help build healthy teeth and bones.

He said: "Milk has many benefits for children, as it not only ensures that children receive their perfect portion of key nutrients, but also its serving at schools and playgroups helps to develop social skills such as responsibility and sharing.

"As a former dairy farmer who has drunk milk all my life, I think it's very important that children are encouraged to drink milk from an early age, and schemes such as the World School Milk Day help to highlight milk's benefits."

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NEWS in brief

Concert to boost festive lights fund

A BILINGUAL concert will be held in Llanfair Caereinion tomorrow, Friday, to raise funds for the town's Christmas lights.

Builth Wells Male Voice Choir will be performing a programme of songs in English and Welsh at the Public Institute in the town at 7.30pm.

The choir will be led by musical director Luned Jones and accompanied by Ann Bufton.

Tickets cost £6 on the door and money raised will go towards the cost of this year's illuminations.

Cycling events to mark Bike Month

A DAY of cycling events will take place in Oswestry as part of Shropshire's annual Love Your Bike Month.

Oswestry Library will host the free family-friendly activities on Saturday, with a family bike ride to the Hillfort taking place at 1pm.

Events start at 11am and will include art activities for children, puncture repair demonstrations and Dr Bike safety checks. Dr Bike will also be in Festival Square in Oswestry on October 19 from 10am to 1pm.

Group plans trips

CHIRK Bank Community Group will next meet on October 15 in the chapel schoolroom in Weston Rhyn.

The group is planning a trip to a candle factory in November and a Christmas shopping trip to Manchester on December 9. Call (01691) 770016 for more details.

Long-serving Margaret in line for top nursing award

SINCE qualifying as a nurse in 1967, Margaret Jones has dedicated her life to caring for others.

'Sister Jones' found her vocation at the age of 12, when she joined the St John Ambulance as a volunteer. For the past half century she has worked in a number of hospital posts including at Bronglais Hospital in Aberystwyth and as a staff nurse and sister at Newtown for 30 years.

But after retiring from the NHS in 2006, she decided she wasn't ready to put up her feet and joined the staff at Rhallt Care Home, Salop Road, Welshpool, in 2009, as a part-time staff nurse.

WOMEN OF SUBSTANCE
with Pam Griffin

"I retired from the NHS and three months later I couldn't stand it and thought 'I'm sure I can give more here' and applied for work at a brand-new nursing home at Aberystwyth," she said.

"I was there two-and-a-half years before moving nearer home. I still had something to give and wasn't ready for retirement.

"I am nearly 68, I have a very busy life but it's very rewarding. I am lucky I still have my health."

Margaret's dedication has now been rewarded as she is in the running to win the title of Nurse of the Year at the Wales Care Awards.

Nick Oulton, manager of Rhallt Care Home, said: "What makes Margaret stand out is her total commitment and enthusiasm for her role, her willingness to mentor and train new staff, her passion for good old-fashioned basic nursing care, and her ability to gain the confidence and respect of staff and residents.

"Margaret is hardworking and always cheerful and pleasant. She does not realise how special she really is and shows no signs of slowing down."

The awards ceremony attracts entrants from the cream of the care sector and will be held in Cardiff on October 18.

As well as her care home duties, Margaret, of Hill Crest, Aberhafesp, also provides training as mid Wales regional nurse for St John Ambulance and has been a volunteer at the Royal Welsh Show for 27 years. Until recently the grandmother was also a First Responder volunteer for the Welsh Ambulance Service, rushing to the aid of people in an emergency.

Mario Kreft MBE, chairman of Care Forum Wales, said the Wales Care Awards had gone from strength to strength.

He said: "The event is now firmly established as one of the highlights in the Welsh social care calendar.

"The aim is to recognise the unstinting and often remarkable dedication of our unsung heroes and heroines across Wales.

"The care sector is full of wonderful people like Margaret because it's not just a job, it's a vocation – these are the people who really do have the X Factor.

"If you don't recognise the people who do the caring you will never provide the standards that people need. It is a pleasure to honour the contribution of all the finalists. Each of them should be very proud."

Still going strong: Margaret Jones continues to enjoy nursing after more than 40 years

Tramway group to improve trackside

ENTHUSIASTS who are hoping to restore an ancient tramway near Chirk have pledged to carry out a number of environmental projects in the area as part of the scheme.

Members of the Glyn Valley Tramway Trust have been given £300 of National Garden Centre vouchers by Keep Wales Tidy. They have pledged to use the vouchers to improve the area alongside the planned route of the track while the line is restored.

The trust is hoping to recreate the tramway which ran through Chirk and the Ceiriog Valley a century ago.

Trust chairman David Carter said: "Thanks to the Keep Wales Tidy garden centre voucher scheme we are now able to buy woodland management tools to assist in the restoration and upkeep of the tramway."

The scheme is funded by the Welsh Government and is being used to help cover the costs of tools and materials as well as native plants, shrubs and seeds.

Shane Hughes, Keep Wales Tidy project officer, said: "I am delighted that Glyn Valley Tramway Trust has been awarded National Garden Centre vouchers. These vouchers will enable them to make a positive difference by maintaining the beautiful woodlands adjacent to the tramway."

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Author to share her amazing journey

AN inspirational woman who turned her world around after her family fell apart will be visiting Oswestry to talk about her experiences.

Cheryl Strayed will be visiting from her home in Minnesota, USA, on October 15.

Her story – Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail – was published last year and reached the top of the New York Times Best Sellers list as well as being selected as a BBC Radio 4 book of the week.

The book was the result of a series of events which saw her believe she had lost everything when her mother died of cancer, her family scattered and her marriage crumbled.

At 26-years-old she felt her life was spinning out of control, and so she made the most impulsive decision of her life – to walk the Pacific Crest Trail from the Mojave Desert through California and Oregon to Washington state, and to do it alone.

On her return she wrote about her experiences, from terrifying nights in the middle of nowhere to the exhilaration of walking through some of the USA's most spectacular scenery.

Cheryl will be at Booka bookshop, Church Street, at 7pm. Tickets £10, which includes a signed hardback copy of Wild. Tickets must be booked (01691) 662244.

Sight and sound of stags are a real wonder to behold

YOUNG children are a joy to behold when it comes to their enthusiasm for wildlife.

They can exclaim that a slug is 'a treasure' when they find one under a rock. Some of them will sit for hours waiting for badgers to emerge (and others will not!)

Many will be mesmerised by staring incessantly at a fishing float in the anticipation that it will bob under and thus reveal another treasure from the depths. But alas there are others that seem to lose that innate fascination for the natural world that can often be found lacking in adults too.

Well October has the ability to hurl both said nature-phobes into paroxysms of joy. And what's more those people, both children and adults, that enjoy identifying birds, pond-dipping or tree-climbing, will find themselves in for a treat. The answer is Chestnuts and Stags.

Wildlife

This month sees two major wildlife events take place. The fact that they're both linked and occur in the same spot, is sure to budge even the most ardent coach potato or video game-mad child into action. Here's hoping.

Horse chestnut trees are the stuff of dreams for small boys and girls. Whether they are climbed or not, in October they start to relinquish their bounty – conkers.

Many a knuckle will be bruised in the ensuing weeks and many a home remedy for increasing strength investigated. But the fruit of the chestnut tree is of course more useful for nature, so try and leave a few for the animals!

In particular, deer love them. And when you mention deer in October, you have to mention the rut too. This annual event is arguably one of the most exciting happenings of any species of animal anywhere in the world.

ON THE WILD SIDE

by Ben Waddams

And even if there isn't a clash of antlers to be seen, the rut is still a marvel to behold.

Whether you're looking for conkers of deer, the best place in North Shropshire to head for is Attingham Park. The resident herd of fallow deer are into the swing of things and the bucks are busy rounding up their harems of hinds and challenging all comers to dare to size them up.

Since the spring, when the previous year's antlers are shed, the bucks have been busy growing their large palmations (antlers that spread like a palm) into hardened fighting tools. In October they are in their prime, with taught bodies and huge, muscular necks.

They each have their own 'rutting stand' and this they will defend from any other males. However although fights can last for days, you may well come across a lull in the drama. Should this be your luck, you should still be witness to the bellowings of these creatures, which are almost as impressive as their physical fights.

Slightly further afield in Staffordshire, lies Cannock Chase. There are plenty of fallow deer here too, but the real draw for Cannock is the red deer, Britain's largest land mammal – and it's a stone's throw from the M54. Red deer dwarf fallows in terms of size, strength and noise. If you're looking for a primeval experience, why not head over to the Chase just before dawn.

Pull up at any of the car parks, turn off the engine and listen. Chances are that within a few minutes you'll be barraged by a chorus not of birdsong, but of roaring stags. Trust me, you won't regret it, whether you have children in the back or not; all will be in awe. Whether you decide to track the deer or see if they come to you is your decision. And you can of course always play conkers whilst you wait.

See Ben's prints at the Gallery Tearooms, Princess St., Shrewsbury.

***The Legend of the Glen* – acrylic on board – by Ben Waddams.**

Workers to do walk and climb for charity

THREE supermarket workers will walk more than 60 miles before climbing one of Britain's highest peaks for charity.

Mike Dixon, David Bird and Paul Wright, who all work at Tesco in Canal Way, Ellesmere, will walk from the supermarket to mount Snowden in Wales before tackling the 3,560ft high mountain.

The three will take on the challenge on Wednesday in the hope of raising as much money as possible for Diabetes UK.

Mr Dixon is well known for taking part in charity walks after trekking from Ellesmere to Ellesmere Port last month and walking to Old Trafford.

He said: "I have done a number of charity walks before because walking is something I really enjoy.

"I have always wanted to walk up a mountain but funnily enough have never done it before so this will be my first trip up Snowden and will be a nice challenge.

"I've done walks on my own and in groups but this time David and Paul have agreed to join me which is great.

"We're going to walk all the way to Snowden then up and back down it before getting a lift home."

Mr Dixon said collection buckets have been placed around Tesco.

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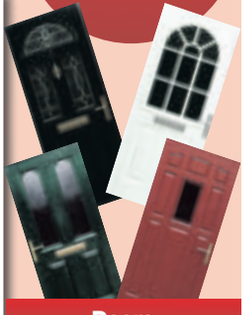
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Events to examine fungi and butterflies

SHROPSHIRE Wildlife Trust has arranged two events planned for the Oswestry area in October.

A fungi foray will be held at the Llynclys Common nature reserve on October 13 to celebrate National Fungi weekend.

Let by John Hughes, the trust's fungi expert people can take a walk and look for waxcaps, scarlet fly agarics and others in grassland and woodland.

Those taking part should meet at the Porthywaen band hall car park.

The event will start at 11am.

The walk costs £2 for members and £3 for non members with children free of charge.

On October 16 at the Methodist Church hall in Oswestry at 7.30pm butterfly expert Dr Simon Spencer will give an illustrated talk, Saving the butterflies of the Oswestry hills.

"This area is one of the best in Shropshire for butterflies, with several nationally rare species present alongside many others thankfully more abundant, and the Trust is leading a project to give the butterflies their best chance of flourishing here," he said.

The cost is the same as for the fungi foray, with refreshments included.

How love blossomed at hospital

John Podmore, back third from left, with the Derwen cricket team – he was the captain – in 1931.

Derwen College prefects in 1932. John Podmore is in the seated row, fourth from left.

Love conquered all... the August 1936 wedding picture of John and Kath Podmore.

LAST week we told the story of how young Emily Renshaw, who had had a lower leg amputated after being misdiagnosed with TB ankle, was one of the first trainees when a "cripples training college" was created at Oswestry's Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital in 1927.

by Toby Neal

Here Mrs Jean Roe, the daughter of Kath Renshaw – as Emily became known – continues the story with the arrival on the scene of the man who would become her father.

"My mum was living at the Derwen college and they decided to admit men as well.

"My dad John Podmore came from Stoke-on-Trent and got a place there. He had polio and had a splint and a high boot. He was born in 1908 so was three years older than my mother.

"They started becoming friends, but at that time Dame Agnes Hunt didn't like male students and girl students mixing together. My mum said they felt it was their responsibility to look after these children, as they were called, and they were not prepared to put up with friendships going any further than a 'hello' across the room.

Separated

"My mum and dad started courting, which they kept secret for a while. When they went into the dining hall dad would sit up one side, and my mum would be the other, and there was a clear space through so they could see each other. My dad was very handy with his hands and built a bike for himself from scrap, and also built my mum a bike, and every Sunday afternoon they used to cycle from Oswestry to Shrewsbury, either cycling all the way, or some Sundays cycling to, I think, Gobowen railway station and waiting for the train.

"In 1935 my mum was sent to Bath and Wessex Children's Orthopaedic Hospital.

"Whether a job came up and they thought it was one way of separating my mum and dad, I don't know. It didn't go down very well. She was too far away from home in Shrewsbury and it meant she and dad were separated."

Kath wrote saying she was unhappy at the hospital and wanted to return to the Derwen. That didn't happen – but the matter was solved in another way, with Kath and John marrying in Shrewsbury on August 29, 1936, and setting up home together in Wolverhampton, where John had found work with Boulton & Paul.

And in honour of their shared background they gave their home in Warstones Crescent the name "Derwen".

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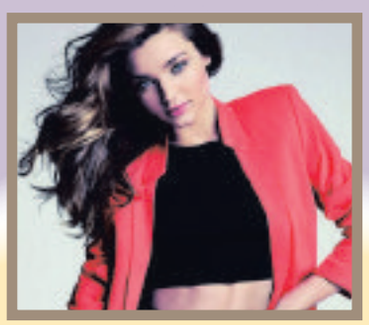

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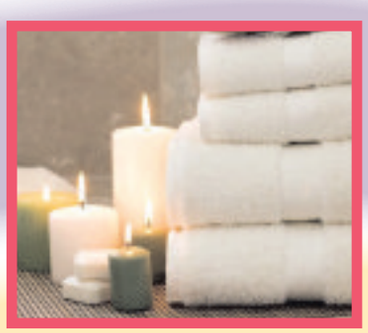

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THE ARTS

01691 668094

Artists urged to include their work in exhibition

by Pam Griffin

A CALL has gone out for artists to submit work for an exhibition at a town centre gallery which is due to open in the coming weeks.

The Willow Gallery in Willow Street is looking for artists to submit work for Affordable Art, an open exhibition running from October 26 to November 30.

Gallery curator Tereska Shepherd said: "The idea behind the exhibition is to celebrate the diversity of art which doesn't break the bank, enabling everyone to have a piece of original artwork in their home or to give as a gift for Christmas.

Invited

"All subjects and mediums will be considered, including paintings, original prints, sculpture, textiles, drawing and photography, but each work is requested to be priced at £100 or below."

Artists are invited to submit single pieces or a series of work, with submission fees set on the space used rather than number of works submitted.

The gallery will be responsible for hanging all artwork.

Entry forms and exhibitors' agreements should be handed in by October 18 and all unsold artwork will be available for collection on December 2.

The gallery takes 35 per cent commission on all artwork sold, which supports the upkeep of the gallery.

For an entry form or more information visit the gallery, call (01691) 657575 or email willowgalleryoswestry@gmail.com

Artist Tereska Shepherd will be holding watercolour painting classes at the Willow Gallery in Oswestry. *Picture: Laura Dutfield.*

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Those interested in history will be intrigued by the visit to Zululand, passing through Swaziland en route, to reach the haunting battlefields of Islandlwana and Rorke's Drift. In 1879 these two battles, just a day apart, became a defining moment for the British Empire and the specialist Zulu guide will make those desperate encounters come alive.

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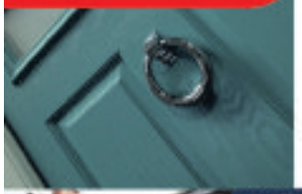

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A mix of music and film for all the family

THERE'S plenty of variety this week with an eclectic mix of shows and screenings in the area to keep you interested.

Kicking things off is talented singer songwriter Steve Edwards who will be performing at The Lowfield Inn, Marton on Friday night.

Steve first starting performing in May of last year and has since gone from strength to strength and has become a mainstay of the Welshpool music scene.

A versatile musician, Steve plays a wide and varied set of covers by musicians such as The Jam, Biffy Clyro and The Stereophonics. He also plays some of his own original songs. The gig starts at 8pm and is free entry.

If you're looking for something a little different, kinokulture will be screening the critically acclaimed Italian film *The Great Beauty (La Grande Belleza)* on Saturday night.

Directed by Paolo Sorrentino the film follows the story of an aging writer as he reminisces about his youth.Released earlier this year, the film paints a portrait of a modern Rome which is both beautiful and grotesque.

Since its release the film has garnered attention from critics and film fans alike, having been nominated for the Palme d'Or at this year's Cannes Film Festival and selected as the Italian entry for Best Foreign Language film at the Academy Awards.

The film is being shown at 7.30pm, for information on tickets you can ring kinokutlure on 0845 2500517.

Steve Edwards plays a wide and varied set.

Recital

On Saturday night Christ Church, Oswestry, will be presenting a recital by celebrated concert organist Thomas Trotter. He splits his time between being Birmingham City Organist and organist for St Margaret's, Westminster.

In 2001 he became the first organist to win the Royal Philharmonic Society's award for Best Instrumentalist.

As you can imagine he is a master of his trade, so if you enjoy excellent musicianship then head along.

The concert starts at 7:30pm with tickets priced at £10, which are available from the Guildhall Reception, Oswestry Town Council on the Bailey Head or on the door.

As part of "Trefonen Entertains" Trefonen Village Hall will be screening the historical comedy *Hyde Park* on Hudson this Saturday.

Part biographical the film follows President Roosevelt (played by Bill Murray) during a visit to the UK in the 1930s. The film will be shown at 7.30pm with tickets costing £4 for adults and £2.50 for children.

Book & pay in full by 31st October 2013 for a £10.00 pp discount

New Year 2013

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"I NO LONGER NEED THE DOCTOR - I'M CURED!"

For bubbly ski instructor and former county table tennis star Wendy Payton, the Miruji chair has been a passport back to normal life after living for almost half a decade with debilitating M.E.

She has been able to go back to work again, as a nursery assistant in Shrewsbury.

Wendy's problems started when her 18-year marriage failed in 2008 and she was left to struggle on alone with four children. "I was at work on day in Telford and I found I couldn't walk up the ski slope," she said.

"I became a recluse for four years and stayed indoors. I felt a failure to my kids. I'm not the type of person to let things get to me. I didn't want to be labelled as depressed but I found I couldn't get out of bed in the mornings. I lived on benefits and shut myself away. My kids used to have to wake me up and ask me to take them to school. Whenever their dad took them, it was a release - I was able to have a rest. It wasn't a nice position to be in. I did things on auto-pilot, like a robot. I didn't like looking in the mirror. I thought who's that person? If I had to do anything I was exhausted. After doing the housework I would have to spend the rest of the day in bed."

Wendy, 47, who used to play table tennis for Shropshire, was diagnosed with chronic fatigue syndrome, also known as myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME) three years ago.

"I was told not to try to do everything all at once" she said.

Slowing down and feeling awful made Wendy reach for food, to take her mind off things.

"I went from a size 14 to a size 18" she said. "I comfort ate chocolate most days. I ate lots of takeaways as I couldn't fancy cooking. I always made sure the kids ate properly. I looked after them but neglected myself." Wendy contacted Miruji after seeing an advertisement for the Sit and Slim trial in November last year.

"I was quite sceptical at first. I thought it was all brain-washing. I came in and did the sessions in the chair but I wasn't paying full attention. Then I noticed there were little triggers the made me cry as I was listening. Something kick-started me. I was in floods of tears. You are just taking in things a little bit at a time and then you realise you are beginning to see results. I also enjoy the fact that it is a bit of me time - for a stressed mum, it is time where I can just switch off and it helps things go in."

Wendy was particularly moved by a section of the audio that talks about a branch in the road - you can either choose on path, a fitter, healthier you, or keep getting bigger over the years until until you lose all sense of self worth and take up two seats on an aeroplane.

"I thought at the end of the day, you can do anything if you really put your mind to it," she said. "It motivated me to sort my life out."

Wendy committed to doing 90 minutes a week in the chair.

"I suddenly saw the things that I had let take over my life and how that affected the people around me", she said.

Now Wendy's children, aged 18, 16, 13 and 11 cannot believe the change in their mum. She has slimmed down to a size 14 and is brimming with energy and enthusiasm. She even took all of her children away on holiday to Tunisia by herself.

"I was absolutely chuffed," she said. "I would never have thought I could cope before. We hadn't been on holiday for years. They all absolutely loved it. I came back with loads of confidence, energy and a suntan, having spent quality time with my kids. Before, I tended to push them away. They loved the

new me. They're really proud." The icing on the cake was being offered a job, having previously been knocked back may times at interviews.

"I have a different attitude now", she said. "I'm much more positive about life. I wake up early in the morning. Before I would wake up and want to crawl back under the bed clothes. I've got loads of energy, I'm up late at night. I can walk miles with the dogs." Wendy also feels her experience at Miruji has helped her protect her daughter from knocks in life. "I felt worthless and I never want her to feel like that. Miruji has taught me that you have to learn to like the person you are."

"I LOST 4 STONE IN 6 MONTHS!"

Sue McColl from Chessington in Surrey has a history of ill health and has been on medication to help with a variety of health issues for many years.

She has tried just about every kind of diet plan there is and says she was the typical yo-yo dieter; losing some weight only to put it back on soon after. She was always up and down and felt, like so many people with weight problems helpless, demotivated and very low about herself. It's fair to say her self esteem and confidence was non-existent and like most yo-yo dieters she would console herself when feeling down with sweet foods and 'treats' which of course negatively adds to her overall weight, having nothing but adverse effects.

On top of all this Sue is a diabetic and has to regularly use a dialysis machine as she also needs a kidney transplant. With regular and multiple trips to and from her GP it soon became clear to her that to get onto the kidney transplant waiting list she had to achieve a significant drop in her weight to be deemed 'low risk'. Weighing almost 17 stone she had to lose at least five stone to give herself a chance.

Due to all Sue's health issues she had to be pushed in a wheelchair by her daughters whenever she wanted to go shopping which would tire her out very quickly and of course keep her confidence at a constant low. She longed to be like other 'normal' people who could just walk around the shops themselves without any assistance.

It was then that Sue discovered the Miruji Wellbeing Chair and the Sit & Slim programme. The Miruji chair is a state-of-the- art therapeutic wellbeing chair combined with cutting edge audio programmes that us Neuro Linguistic Programming techniques. She saw an advertisement in her local paper offering the first 30 improved motivation and mindset after each of these sessions.

She felt lifted, inspired and reassured that maybe this could be the solution she had been searching for, for so many years. Sue lost a stone after just 1 month. The second month she lost a further stone followed by 10lbs in the third month. Sue lost 4 stone in just 19 weeks.

Her doctor has even remarked just how amazing the transition in her has been. Initially slightly sceptical, her doctor now fully believes the treatment in the chair combined with the powerful audio programme have directly resulted in Sue losing the required weight which has in turn enabled her to gradually reduce and even come off the amount of medication she has been on.

Sue can now walk for hours around her local shopping centre in Kingston upon Thames, no longer requiring assistance. Her self-esteem has gone through the roof and her confidence and overall sense of wellbeing has increased improving her whole outlook on life. She exudes

positivity now where before it was all doom and gloom with no end to her suffering in sight. Sue's life, she believes, has radically improved for the better and she attributes this entirely to the Miruji Sit & Slim Chair.

Sue is living proof that the Sit & Slim Chair can and does work and recommends anyone suffering similar weight problems as she did, to go along and try it for themselves.

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MARKETS

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Welshpool livestock market

October 7

OTMS (54)

A sizeable entry of Over thirty month cattle sold to average 118ppkg for the older cows, Under 48 month old heifers sold to 151ppkg, cows at 48 – 72 months sold to an average of 133ppkg, a bull at 72 months or older sold to 119.50ppkg. An Aberdeen Angus cow weighing 782kg from RH & SH Gwyther, Llan Hall achieved the top market price of £1063.52; therefore Mr Gwyther receives the Briarwood Products Limited Prize of £25 for the highest price older cow sold on the day. A Simmental cow weighing 719kg made £992.22 from EE Davies & Co, Dyffryn Gwyn. An older Limousin bull weighing 817kg made a total of £972.23 from TH Turner & Co, Red House.

A Limousin heifer under 72 months that weighed 621kg made £1099.17 from DP Evans, Moel-Y-Garth Farm. An under 48 month British Blue heifer weighing 579kg made a total of £1158 from SJ Smith, Penybryn.

FAT CATTLE (12)

A larger entry of 12 fat cattle were entered in this weeks sale. A Limousin heifer weighing 529kg achieved a price of 258ppkg, presented by GW & BA Haynes, Trefnant Isaf. The Briarwood Products Limited Prize of £25 for the highest price pence per kilo goes to Mr Haynes, Trefnant Isaf. A Limousin heifer weighing 530kg also presented by GW & BA Haynes, Trefnant Isaf made a price of 257ppkg. A Limousin Bull weighing 523kg made 207ppkg from J Corfield & Sons, Fairfield. A Limousin bull weighting 557kg presented again by J Corfield & Sons, Fairfield achieved 208ppkg.

PRIME LAMBS (5892)

An entry of 5892 prime lambs, achieving an average of 178ppkg.

Super Lights (11) to 152 from EP Jones & Son, Nant-y-Nodyn.

Lights (634) to 187ppkg from TM Davies, Wynnstay Farm. Others to 184ppkg from EP Jones & Son, Nant-y-Nodyn. Average of 171ppkg.

Standards (1758) to 205ppkg from DE Morgan & Co, Cefntwlch. Others to 200ppkg from NG & GG Davies, Trawsgelli. Average of 177ppkg.

Medium's (2651) to 212ppkg from A Rees & Son, Tynllwyn. Others to 206ppkg from DR Owen & Sons, Sandilands Farm. Average of 179ppkg.

Heavies (755) to 208ppkg from Tynybryn Farms. Others to 206ppkg from D Jones, Graig Fach. Average of 175ppkg.

Over Weights (83) to 192ppkg from DTA Williams, Upper Bolbro. Other to 184ppkg from DP Casewell, Tanrhiw. Average of 171ppkg.

CULL EWE (4731)

There were a larger number of entries again this week seeing an average price of £38 for the ewes and £48 for the rams. Cull rams topped the sale this week with a price of £125 from EM Gwilt, Cwm Mawr; others reached £98.50 from VT & S Hamer, Trinnant. Ewes achieved a top price of £108 from MArtrose Meat Brokers. Others to £106 from PV Jerman, Upper Pentre. Weekly sale of cull sheep to follow immediately after the sale of prime lambs at approx 12 noon.

STORE EWES AND STORE LAMBS

Store Lambs: A total of 600 Store lambs were entered achieving an average price of £50 per head with the top price of £67.50 from Cefncoed Farms for mixed and clean lambs. Theave lambs achieved a top price of £62 from En & EG Griffiths and Ram lambs made a top price of £64 from BE Thomas, Blaen Y Cwm

Store Ewes: This week a total of 2086 breeding ewes were entered with the top price of £136 coming from WCG Davies & Son for yearling mules. Two year old Texel ewes achieved a top price of £90 coming from RE Evans and three year old Suffolk Ewes achieved a top price of £84 from J & J Stafford.

£70 was the top price gained for mule ewe lambs coming from P & C Marsh, Glyn Farm.

Same again next Monday with store lambs being sold from 10:30am with breeding ewes at 11am followed by rams.

DAIRY (19)

An excellent entry of 19 Dairy Cattle met with a sound trade once again.

Three British Friesian type heifers from RR Corfield & Co, Bron-y-nant met with a solid demand and sold to a top of £1800 with further price of £1780 and £1700.

WA & EM Morris, Maestanyglwden sold a Debbie Jo Drake sired heifer for £1900. Wa-Del Hayden daughter from the same home sold for £1820. DN Williams, Gilfach sold a heifer for £2030 whilst I Cadwallader made £1810 of a second calver.

A breakdown of all of the prices achieved are as follows:- £2000+ 1 lot; 1800-2000 3 lots; 1600-1800 6 lots; 1400-1600 1 lot; 1200-1400 5 lots; <1200 3 lots.

Forthcoming Sales

Today (Thursday), Welsh Mule Sheep (Ewes and Ewe Lambs)

Tomorrow (Friday), Munlyn Herd Dairy Dispersal Sale

Monday, Multi breed, MV Accredited Rams

Tuesday, Store Cattle, Organic Stock and Weanlings

Thursday, Welsh Half Bred Sheep & All Breed Theave Lambs

Monday October 21, Supplementary Texel Ram Sale

Tuesday October 29, October Store Cattle Fair

Thursday October 31, Pedigree Limousin Cattle & Weanling Cattle.

Saturday, November 2, In-Lamb Pedigree British Berrichon & Charollais Ewes

Monday, November 4, Prize Store Lamb Sale.

Thursday, November 7, Pedigree Charolais Cattle.

Oswestry cattle auctions

October 2

FAT CATTLE: (64)

A few less cattle forward today, but another firm trade came to meet them again on all sorts.

Top slots hit 251p for Heifers 240p for Steers and 238p for Bulls.

Highest price in the lump was £1580 for a steer. Bottom book of 134p for a plain friesian bull. Overall market average of 201.5p was achieved.

Young Bulls (27) Overall Average 185.5p.

Light Bulls (4) Average 162p (£725/head) Selling to 175p from J Edwards Mount Farm.

Medium Bulls (16) Average 182.5p (£920/head) Selling to 232p from J Edwards Mount Farm.

Heavy Bulls (7) Average 201.5p (£1230/head) Selling to 238p from J Edwards Mount Farm.

Steers (10) Overall Average 215.5p.

Medium Steers (5) Average 204.5p (£1095/head) Selling to 218p from HW Hughes Hanmer House Farm.

Heavy Steers (5) Average 224.5p (£1495/head) Selling to 240p from J D Jones Crogen Iddon.

Heifers (27) Overall Average 211p.

Medium Heifers (4) Average 234.5p (£1035/head) Selling to 251p from R W & J L Edwards Tyn Twll.

Heavy Heifers (23) Average 207.5p (£1150/head) Selling to 241p from J D Jones Crogen Iddon.

A pleasing trade on all types please keep the cattle coming. Thank you for your support.

FAT LAMBS: (3915)

Another excellent entry of 3915 prime lambs on Wednesday.

Although the trade was slightly less money the competition through and through was quite good.

The overall average was 159p/kg. 613 light lambs averaged 148.5p/kg with the top call of 163p/kg for 33kg lambs making £63 from R I Edwards Brynsion. 951 standard lambs averaged 156.5p/kg with the top price being 174p/kg from E B Ellis Penisarcwm with 38kg lambs making £66. 1665 medium lambs levelled at 163p/kg with the top price per kg being 177p with 42kg lambs making £74.20 from H C & F C Roberts Wolfs Head. The 528 heavy lambs levelled at 158p/kg.

The overweights averaged 162.63p/kg with £94 being top call.

Lights to 163p average 148.5p, Standards to 174p average 156.5p, Mediums to 177p average 163p, Heavy's to 170p average 158p, Others to 165p average 163p. Overall average 159p.

FAT EWES: (915)

A similar entry forward but a sharper trade for everything on show. The overall average of £34 did not do justice to the trade but was restricted by the large proportion of plain hill ewes on show.

A top price of £85 went to a pen sold by E & C Davies, Pontfadog. Only 3 rams offered with a top price of £90 for a Ram sold by D W Roberts, Penybryn.

Please note: All sheep entering the market must be tagged.

CALVES: (81)

Good numbers again today with demand much improved as more buyers attended.

Small friesians at similarly less levels.

Charolais Bulls topping the sale at £386 from Messrs Andrew Neuadd Uchaf.

British Blue Bulls to £315 from Messrs James Church Farm £308 (twice) & £300 from Messrs Royle Berrywood. Limousin Bulls to £314 from Messrs Owen Bonciau £306 from Messrs Gaskin Penyparc £302 from Messrs Roberts Pentre David £302 from Messrs Gittins Trefnanney £296 from Messrs Roberts Ty Issa.

Hereford Bulls to £254 & £245 from Messrs Foulkes Maesteg. Charolais Heifers to £300 from Messrs Gittins Trefnanney £280 from Messrs Andrew Neuadd Uchaf. Limousin Heifers to £264 & £260 from Messrs Andrew Neuadd Uchaf £252 from Messrs Owen Bonciau £250 from Messrs Moore Oaks Farm. British Blue Heifers to £292 from Messrs Ellis Pentrewern £284 from Messrs Ellis Henlle. Hereford Heifers to £244 & £230 from Messrs Roberts Pentre David. Friesian Bulls to £146 £138 & £125 from Messrs Davies Summerhill £88 from Messrs Lewis Crumpwell £80 from Messrs Davies Lower Fawnog

Weanlings: Hereford Bulls 4mo to £375 Hereford Heifers 4mo to £318 from Messrs Evans Glaniwrch.

U72 & CULL COWS: (58)

A good entry met with an easier trade although better than expected judging by the trade elsewhere this week.

Demand is weaker for all types of cattle especially the plainer sorts. Top price Cow 149p/kg Heifer 195p/kg Bull 141p/kg

Cows

Charolais to 112p average 98.71p/kg

Limousin to 149p average 134.62p/kg

Friesian to 128p average 91.42p/kg

Others to 129p average 116.22p/kg

Heifers

Limousin to 195p average 154.64p/kg

Friesian to 152p average 124.27p/kg

Bull to 114p average 131.46p/kg

58 Cattle average 107.11p/kg

STORE SHEEP: (384)

Ewes

Lleyn x Yearlings to £94 from M Jones & Son Fron Farm

Suffolk x Yearlings to £98 from C D Davies & Son Winlle

Welsh Mule Yearlings to £84 from J E Hughes & Son Tuhwntirafon

Texel x Yearlings to £81 from D Lloyd Pontrickett

Speckled Mule Yearlings to £86 from H M Rees Fronheulog

Welsh Ewes to £47 from I M & G Jones Tynycelyn

Texel x Ewes flock ages 2 – 4 years £81 from G H Kynaston Foxholes.

Tups

Texel Yearlings to 480gns 395gns

Beltex x 3 year old to 175gns

Blue faced Leicester to 220gns 170gns 110gns

Charmaise yearlings to 130gns 90gns

Store Lambs

Tups to £45 Lleyn Ewe Lambs to £46

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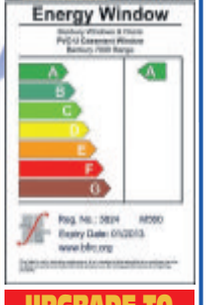

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A new chapter in history of Peugeot hot hatches

Drive time with Graham Breeze

HAVING the letters GTi across the back used to guarantee success for manufacturers but demand is nothing like it used to be.

So it's a bit of a surprise to see Peugeot investing heavily in the 208GTi – even if target sales are only around 2,000 in the UK for the year.

Perhaps it's the company's 30-year history of producing successful hot hatches that has convinced Peugeot the GTi will capture a slice of a market which includes Fiesta ST and Renaultsport Clio.

The stylish interior of the 208GTi, with a leather finish across the dashboard

The Peugeot 208GTi has a top speed of 143mph. Prices start from £18,895

Subtle

What strikes you first about the 208 is its subtle appearance. In fact it doesn't look much different from the regular three-door 208. But this is the most powerful 208 yet.

Outwardly the main things setting the GTi apart from the rest of the 208 range are a 'chequered flag' grille, boot spoiler, chunkier side sills and wheel arch extensions housing a set of 17in alloys.

Other distinguishing marks include red 'GTi' emblems on its C-pillars and the theme continues inside, with red stitching for the central vent surrounds, gearknob, seatbelts and door handles.

But while outwardly the GTi has very little to attract the eye of today's hot hatch enthusiast there's a powerful engine, firm suspension and a wider track and a lower ride height to improve handling.

There's easily enough grip on offer and you can corner as hard as you want to and enjoy using the six-speed manual gearbox with good ratios.

Quite simply this 208 does everything you ask of it but is a more comfortable ride than a lot of the competition out there, which might not be what the hot hatch enthusiast is really looking for.

But buyers won't be disappointed with performance. In fact this GTi is a bit of a wolf in sheep's clothing. There's a top speed of 143mph, 0-62mph in 6.8 seconds, 200bhp and 275Nm of torque.

Peugeot claims average fuel consumption of 48mpg and 139g/km CO2 emissions which means it will be cheap enough to run.

I loved the cloth and leather sports seats and found plenty of kit to keep me interested including a DAB radio, rear parking sensors and automatic lights and wipers as standard.

Highlights include the leather finish across the dashboard and a stylish, flat-bottomed steering wheel.

On-the-road prices start at £18,895 but the test car would set you back nearer £20,000 thanks to metallic paint, cornering assist fog lights and a multifunction colour touch-screen navigation upgrade.

Peugeot's biggest problem will be whether hot hatch fans feel the 208GTi is different enough from the rest of the sector to tempt them to part with their money. Time will tell.

Bumper to bumper

Peugeot 208
Model: 1.6 GTi 3-door
Price: £18,895
Top speed: 143mph
0-62mph: 6.8secs
CO2 emissions: 139g/km
Combined fuel: 47.9mpg

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57 TOYOTA AYGO, BLUE. ONE OWNER, AC, CD PLAYER, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, SERVICE HISTORY, (20 ROAD TAX), 60 KNOW £4,495
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Motoring

Big Cat is a touch of class

By Bill McCarthy

Jaguar is one of those brands that you wish will do well.

Born in Blackpool under the inspired ownership of Sir William Lyons as the Swallow company it then moved to its spiritual home in Coventry where it became Jaguar and over the following decades, became the car everyone wanted to own – not just in this country but across the world.

The XK is one of its most recognisable names and it is fitting that the latest version was the one that set the car back on that road to success after a troubled period in its history.

The Jaguar XK 2+2 Grand Tourer is powered by a supercharged five-litre engine

Inside, soft-touch finishes decorate the dashboard and doors

Defines

Now owned by Indian giant Tata, perhaps the XK defines the new breed of Jaguar since it first made an appearance to worldwide acclaim back in 2005.

The beautifully conceived 2+2 grand tourer sits on huge 20in alloys wheels and looks even better as a soft top, so beloved by the British public.

A GT is may be but it offers incredible performance from the supercharged five-litre engine.

Brutally quick and beautifully refined, the engine note from the twin exhausts sounds like a racing car and rockets the vehicle from 0-60mph in just 4.5 seconds.

The power is channelled through a six-speed sequential gearbox which also allows you to gearchange via paddles behind the steering wheel if you want a little more fun.

The drive is delivered to the rear wheels with active rear differential, traction and stability control stopping the wheels spinning and keeping the car on the straight and narrow.

Economy is, well, rubbish. Official figures claim average consumption of around a very optimistic 23mpg. High CO2 emissions also put it in the highest benefit in kind taxation range as well.

Driving the car is fun. It is well balanced on corners thanks to variable electronic damping of the suspension and when cruising is a comfortably firm ride. Despite lacking a permanent roof, the strong aluminium construction means there is no evidence of body flex.

The fabric roof settles into a compartment that sits just above the boot in a matter of just 12 seconds, still leaving plenty of space in the boot. That makes for a fantastic open-top experience and even allows the tiny seats in the rear to be just about useable for adults – if only for a limited time.

Those seats are really just suitable for children, but that hardly seems to matter.

The interior features the keyless pulsing starter button and the circular gear control knob that rises from the central console when the ignition is switched on and ambient interior lighting.

Soft-touch finishes decorate the dash and doors and the plush carpets would not be out of place in a stately home.

If one thing is looking slightly dated these days it is the central seven-inch touch screen controls, but it still performs more than adequately controlling major functions such as dual-zone climate control, sound system and communications.

There are 16-way adjustable soft leather grain seats with memory which are both heated and refrigerated, depending on the weather and heated and electrically adjustable steering wheel.

As for standard equipment, just about everything such as powered door mirrors, auto dimming rear view mirror and cruise control is included, as you would hope for £85,000, but if you want a reversing camera and adaptive front lighting, that will set you back nearly a further grand.

But you do get some great kit for the cash and the Bowers & Wilkins surround sound system temps you to pump up the volume as the risk of bursting your eardrums.

If you like more sedate motoring, then the smaller diesel still offers performance and better economy.

One thing that annoyed was the doors had to be given a good slam to shut properly. Not what you expect from a car costing £85k.

Bumper to bumper

Jaguar XKR Convertible

Price: £84,965
Mechanical: 510ps, 5,000cc, 8-cylinder petrol engine driving rear wheels via 6-speed automatic gearbox
Max speed: 155mph
0-60mph: 4.6 seconds
Combined mpg: 23
Insurance group: 49
CO2 emissions: 292g/km
BiK rating: 35 per cent
Warranty: 3 years, 60,000 miles

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO_2 emissions: 373 - 88g/km.#

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2010 60 BMW 318i ES SALOON Manual. 1 owner, 27,000 miles, Metallic Black, FSH **£11,999**

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SPORT

Goalkeeper Connor is called up by England

Connor Beardmore – in England under-15 squad

CONNOR Beardmore, age 14, from the Marches School in Oswestry, has been selected by England Hockey for the Under 15's HIPAC (High Performance Development) at Leeds University later this months.

This follows over eight months of rigorous assessments and qualifications by England Hockey, the body that governs all international hockey activity in England.

Connor is a goalkeeper at Wrexham and Cannock Hockey Clubs and has worked very hard to achieve the highest level in the sport for someone under 15 years of age.

The specialist training is preparation for the Under 16 squad and the Four Nations Competition against Germany, Spain and the Netherlands.

Four Crosses players help youngsters

FOUR Crosses have teamed up with Ballsports Community coaching to offer local juniors the chance to get involved with the game on Saturday morning prior to first team home matches.

Sessions are staged by Ballsports coaches and Four Crosses players Steve Lalley and Neil Prescott, along with Steve Beckett, Gareth Jones and Nick Popyk from the club's first team. The youngsters are able to develop skills and play in small games in a fun environment. Parents can also stay and see their children enjoying the sessions.

Each session lasts for two hours from 11am to 1pm and is priced at £2 per child.

Dates for the sessions are released monthly alongside the first team fixtures in the Spar Mid Wales League. For more information, contact the first team manager Nick Popyk on nick_popyk@hotmail.co.uk

GOLF RETURNS

OSWESTRY

October Medal – Division one: 1 William Woodward 77-10=67, 2 David Griffiths 74-5=69, 3 Simon Pound 77-7=70*, 4 T Glyn Hughes 78-8=70*, 5 Mark Williams 79-9=70, 6 Martin Jenks 80-9=71*; **Division two:** 1 Mark Jennings 77-11=66, 2 David Trow 80-12=68, 3 Emyr Jones 81-11=70*, 4 Keith Probert 82-12=70*, 5 Jez Mellors 85-15=70*, 6 George MacKenzie 84-14=70; **Division three:** 1 Peter Windham 87-22=65, 2 Andrew Jones 90-21=69, 3 Keith Osgood 88-18=70*, 4 Jim Youens 88-18=70, 5 Huw Lloyd-Jones 93-22=71* , 6 John McLean 88-17=71.*

Best gross: Steve Griffiths 73.
*Countback

COBRA provide charity booster

COBRA rugby club presented £450 each for two worthy causes – Ronald McDonald House at Alder Hey Childrens Hospital in Liverpool and Ysgol Cedewain Special School in Newtown.

The money raised for the children's hospital was largely due to Keith Fowles, managing director of KLF Insurance, Shrewsbury, who donated two tickets for the recent Carling Cup tie between Manchester United and Liverpool. The funds for the school came from gate receipts for the club's matches.

From left: Keith Fowles, managing director of KLF Insurance Brokers, Gill Sandilands, deputy head of Ysgol Cedewain School, Pippa Sillitoe, head teacher, COBRA president David Kynaston, fundraiser Trevor Jones, Dr Anthony Evans, COBRA club secretary, and Gareth Jones, chairman.

Last-gasp try just blocks out the Sunlight for Oswestry

RUGBY
by John Bridgwater

OSWESTRY's hopes of back-to-back wins in the South Lancs and Cheshire Two were foiled by a last-ditch try.

It meant they had to settle for a fluctuating 31-31 draw at newly-promoted Port Sunlight.

The Eagles appeared to have done enough to secure the spoils when a Jerry Wilford try gave them a 31-24 advantage in the dying moments, but were stunned as their hosts ran in a try from deep in their own half from the very next attack.

Looking to build on the previous week's win, Oswestry had trailed to a converted try early on but got back on terms with a converted score from captain Andrew Smith following a spell of pressure.

But mid-table rivals Port Sunlight, catching their visitors slumbering, scored two more touchdowns to make the score 19-7.

Four minutes prior to half-time, though, man of the match Andy Merrett made a great break and run to find a second try for the Eagles only for the home side to make a swift reply for a 24-14 half-time lead.

Matters

Fired up, Oswestry rallied after the break with Olly Wilford scoring soon after the re-start, quickly followed by a try from Tom Keaveny to edge 26-24 in front.

They looked to have won it when Wilford took his chance to land another try for a 31-24 advantage in the last minute, but Port Sunlight were not to be denied as they grabbed a last-gasp converted score to level matters.

Despite being denied at the death, Oswestry – who host lowly Ramsey on Saturday – could take heart from their new-found mettle and perseverance as they clawed their way back into the game.

OSWESTRY II are up to fifth in the Raging Bull North West League division four (south) following their slender 13-10 home win over Old Bedians.

They put their form to the test on Saturday with a trip to second-placed Trafford.

COBRA slip to defeat after ringing the changes

COBRA forwards drive forward through Bryn Edwards (5) and No8 Jack Jukes at the back, with hooker Chris Davies (left), flanker Richard Rees (holding ball) and prop Charlie Oakley (nearest camera). Pictures: Lynne Owen.

Three tries in five minutes proves costly

A THREE-try blast early in the second half put the skids under COBRA who crashed 40-15 at Denbigh to remain in the lower half of the Swalec Welsh League division one (north).

The Meifod side had been in the hunt at the break as they trailed just 5-3, but three tries in a five minute spell after the interval effectively put the game out of reach.

Harsh

The final scoreline was a little harsh but it was a tough lesson for the division new boys who will be out to bounce back at home to lowly Bro Ffestiniog on Saturday.

Forced to make seven changes from the previous week's winning line-up against Nant Conwy, COBRA fell behind to an early try following some poor tackling, but a penalty from scrum half Alwyn Williams reduced the arrears in a well balanced first half.

But they were blown away by a mad spell early in the second period, with Denbigh making the most of a wide pitch to run in three tries to take charge.

The Llanfair Caereinion side steadied the ship in the latter stages, and got back into the game with touchdowns from second row Bryn Edwards and flanker Richard Rees, one converted by Williams, to make it 33-15.

They had a chance to close the gap further but, with the line beckoning, the visitors knocked on and Denbigh kicked the ball upfield to score a converted try themselves to scupper any hopes of a fightback.

No8 Aled Davies will miss this weekend's action against Bro Ffestiniog with a broken hand he suffered at the start of the season.

Scrum-half Alwyn Williams attempts a penalty for COBRA during the game against Denbigh

WELSHPOOL, without a game as they had a bye in the first round of the Swalec Bowl, will be looking for their first win of the Swalec Welsh League division three (north) campaign when they head to fourth placed Bangor on Saturday.

Despite some creditable displays early season, Pool have just one point to show for their efforts from the first three games.

Youths unbeaten

ELLESMERE Rangers' youth team continued their unbeaten record on the road with a disappointing 1-1 draw at previously bottom of the table Greenhill in which they missed the opportunity to return to the summit of the Midland Floodlit Youth League Premier Division North.

A mistake in the early exchanges of the second period gifted the home team a goal and an unlikely point after the visitors squandered a host of chances. Josh Brown missed the best of them when he spurned a gilt edged chance from six yards midway through the second period.

Jack Gaddes had given Rangers a 25th minute lead after stooping to finish a Paddy Townsend centre to continue his rich vein of goalscoring form.

"We are not being decisive enough in both final thirds of the pitch at the minute and its costing us valuable points," said manager Dan Stevens.

Ellesmere are at home to Newcastle Town tonight.

TNS U19 side hit ten

WHILE the senior team failed overcome Airbus UK, TNS under-13s ran out 4-1 winners against the Wingmakers with Ben Pritchard, James Gregory Cork, Darren Evans and Jack Vale on target

Biggest winners were the under-19s who thrashed Conwy 10-0 thanks to goals from Fisnik Hajdari, Rhys Cooper, Jordan Wells, Ollie Beaman, Ryan Pryce, Ben Richards, an own goal and a hat-trick from Taylor James.

TNS under-11s drew 3-3 with their Airbus counterparts after hitting back with goals from Ben Buley, Ben Rowlands and Morgan Daykin having trailed 3-0.

A reply from Greg Evans failed to stop the under-16s from slipping to a 2-1 loss to Bristol Rovers.

Hughes on target, but it's just not enough

WESTON RHYN lost ground on the Mercian Regional League premier division leaders after being edged out 2-1 at Ketley Town – despite taking the lead through Jack Hughes.

Rhyn were up against it in the first half, but managed to hold firm with keeper Paul Morris in solid form while the Telford hosts twice hit the woodwork.

But the visitors emerged for the second period with more purpose and took the lead through midfielder Hughes, their man of the match.

It looked at that stage as if it could be their day, but Ketley hit back 20 minutes from time with a free-kick on the right that was curled round the wall and into the bottom corner.

And the home team snatched the points when finding the net in a scramble after the visitors had failed to deal with a corner.

Rhyn travel again on Saturday with a tricky trip to FC Hodnet as they look to bounce back.

They visit Allscott, currently bottom of the table, the following week.

PLACINGS

Mercian League

Premier division: Church Stretton 2, Prees 0; Hodnet 3, Allscott 0; Ketley Town 2, Weston Rhyn 1; Madeley Sports 0, Wellington Amateurs Reserves 3; Morda Utd 9 ,Bridgnorth Reserves 0; Telford Juniors 2, Ketley Bank Utd 2; Whitchurch Alport 1, Oakengates Athletic 6.

Shropshire FA Challenge Cup, round one: Bishop's Castle Town 8, Albrighton Juniors 0; Brown Clee 5, Highley Miners Welfare 0; Claverley 6, Wrockwardine Wood 4; Clee Hill 6, Shrewsbury Utd 0; Donnington Sports and Social 5, Meole Brace 2; Hopesgate Utd 5, Ludlow Town Colts 3; Market Drayton Tigers 0, Oswestry Town 3; Oakengates Rangers 13, Shrewsbury Utd Reserves 0; Oswestry Villa 2, Shawbury Utd Reserves 2 (Shawbury won 4-2 on penalties); AFC Wellington 6, Spalaig Britannia 0; Wrockwardine Wood Juniors 1, AFC Broseley 5; Wroxeter Rovers 8, Trefonen 0.

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Oakengates Ath	9	6	1	28	11	17	20
Telford Juniors	7	5	0	23	7	16	17
FC Hodnet	9	5	2	14	10	4	17
Whitchurch Alp Rs.	10	4	3	16	16	0	15
Weston Rhyn	9	3	3	16	15	1	12
Ketley Town	7	4	3	11	14	-3	12
Morda United	8	3	3	26	18	8	11
Church Stretton	8	3	3	14	14	0	11
Ketley Bank Utd	8	3	3	13	17	-4	11
Shifnal United 97	8	3	4	13	14	-1	10
Madeley Sports	9	3	5	10	15	-5	10
Wellington Am Rs.	8	2	3	13	15	-2	9
Prees	8	3	5	11	15	-4	9
Bridgnorth Tn Rs.	9	1	5	10	24	-14	6
Allscott	9	0	5	6	19	-13	4

DIVISION 1

	P	W	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Oswestry Town	9	9	0	46	8	38	27
Childs Ercall	7	7	0	38	4	34	21
Bishop's C Town	8	6	2	33	9	24	18
Oswestry Villa	8	5	2	28	13	15	16
Clee Hill	8	4	1	22	12	10	15
Dawley Town	8	4	2	24	23	1	14
Rock Rovers	6	4	1	34	11	23	13
Hanwood Utd Rs.	7	4	2	23	10	13	13
Wroxeter Rovers	5	2	0	12	6	6	9
Meole Brace	8	3	5	12	49	-37	9
Shawbury Utd Rs.	8	1	5	10	23	-13	5
Brown Clee	8	1	6	14	26	-12	4
Oakengates Rngrs	8	1	6	9	30	-21	4
Shrewsbury Utd	9	1	7	17	49	-32	4
Wrock Wood Jnrs.	8	1	7	11	36	-25	3
Hopesgate Utd	9	0	7	14	38	-24	2

DIVISION 2

	P	W	L	F	A	GD	Pts
AFC Broseley	9	8	0	59	9	50	25
Wrock Wood	9	7	0	42	12	30	23
Market D Tigers	9	6	2	36	17	19	19
Donnington S&S	8	6	2	46	21	25	18
AFC Wellington	8	5	2	51	16	35	16
Impact	7	4	1	33	14	19	14
Ludlow T Colts	8	3	3	32	19	13	11
Claverley	7	3	4	23	17	6	9
Spalaig Britannia	8	3	5	14	40	-26	9
Shrewsbry Utd Rs.	8	2	6	14	46	-32	6
Highley M Welfare	7	1	4	16	22	-6	5
Albrighton Juniors	7	1	5	12	30	-18	4
Oswestry Villa Rs	8	1	7	8	32	-24	3
Denso	9	0	9	10	101	-91	0

Spar Mid Wales League

Division one: Aberaeron 0, Llanfair Utd 2; Aberystwyth Uni 1, Waterloo 5; Bow Street 1, Carno 2; Four Crosses 10, Dolgellau 0; Llansantffraid Village 3, Berriew 2; Tywyn Bryncrug 6, Builth Wells 3; Welshpool 1, Llandrindod Wells 4.

Division two: Rhosgoch 9, Kerry 0.

E R Jenkins Cup Pool B: Abermule 7, Bont 3; Newbridge-on-Wye 2, Machynlleth 4.

Pool A: Hay St Mary's 4, Talgarth 3; Presteigne 2, Knighton 2.

DIVISION 1

	P	W	L	F	A	Agg	Pts
Carno	7	7	0	17	3	14	21
Llandrindod Wells	6	6	0	39	3	36	18
Berriew	8	6	2	32	9	23	18
Llanfair Utd	8	5	2	21	6	15	16
Aberaeron	9	5	3	19	8	11	16
Waterloo	9	3	2	16	16	0	13
Four Crosses	7	3	1	27	18	9	12
Tywyn/Bryncrug	7	4	3	19	16	3	12
Bow Street	7	3	3	10	11	-1	10
Llansantffraid	9	3	5	16	24	-8	10
Builth Wells	8	2	5	16	30	-14	7
Welshpool	9	2	6	14	29	-15	7
Montgomery	8	2	5	7	30	-23	7
Dyffryn Banw	6	0	4	8	21	-13	2
Aber Uni	1	0	1	1	5	-4	0
Dolgellau	9	0	9	7	40	-33	0

DIVISION 2

	P	W	L	F	A	Agg	Pts
Rhosgoch	5	4	1	27	10	17	12
Knighton	6	2	0	11	7	4	10
Presteigne	4	2	0	11	5	6	8
Hay St Marys	5	2	1	13	9	4	8
Abermule	5	2	2	7	6	1	7
Machynlleth	3	2	1	6	6	0	6
Bont	5	2	2	5	12	-7	3
Kerry	5	0	2	11	22	-11	3
Newbdge-on-Wye	5	0	3	6	14	-8	2
Talgarth	3	0	2	3	9	-6	1

SPORT

Goals blitz as Morda put nine past Town

MORDA United climbed five places in the Mercian Regional League premier division as they returned to winning ways with a sensational 9-0 home demolition of Bridgnorth Town reserves.

Seven different players were on the scoresheet as Scott Graham led the way with a masterful performance in midfield, taking the Weston Road men up to seventh in the table.

He and Elliot Howes each claimed a brace alongside single goals from Mike Lloyd, skipper Tom Coulson, Gareth Lewis, Sam Litchfield and Chris Scott.

Also shining in a fine team performance was defender Shaheen Miah, whose accurate left-foot created three of the four first-half goals.

Morda had an early scare when keeper Tony Davies was penalised for a trip just outside the penalty box, but they never looked back after opening the scoring when Coulson beat the offside trap to head home Miah's free-kick.

Graham went close with a chip before Lewis doubled the home lead when controlling the ball well before beating his marker and firing home.

Ian Heathcock went close with a fierce shot before a terrific Miah cross was headed home by defender Lloyd and Miah also created Morda's fourth 10 minutes before the break with a tantalising corner from which Litchfield forced the ball home.

Five minutes after the interval, Howes joined the scoring as he broke through on the right before finding the net with a low shot from a narrow angle.

Rasping

Howes then hit the bar with a rasping shot before Graham struck United's sixth, while Miah went close himself with a free-kick which flew narrowly over.

Howes then created Morda's seventh which Scott headed home; Howes bagged the eighth, breaking down the right before hitting the roof of the net with a venomous shot, and moments later Scott made the ninth for Graham.

Graham was now dominating midfield and finding time to join the attack, but despite several efforts failed to secure a third goal as Morda ended the game just short of double figures.

Frustrated Bridgnorth player-manager Jon Gaff failed to last the full game, being sent off with five minutes remaining after earning a second yellow card for booting the ball off the pitch in reaction to a decision by referee Ryan Lewis.

This result gave Morda confidence for last night's trip to AFC Bridgnorth's first team in the newly-established Shropshire Premier Cup.

On Saturday, Craig Rogers' side will be on their travels again.

They face bottom club Allscott in a league match as they look to move further up the table.

Rangers test

ELLESMERE RANGERS, buoyed by a welcome clean sheet last weekend, face a tough home game against Lye Town, riding high in the West Midlands League premier division, on Saturday.

Delwyn Humphreys's young side, who remain in the division's bottom three, picked up a point from a 0-0 stalemate with Wolverhampton Sporting Community at Beech Grove last Saturday.

Depleted Llanrhaeadr made to suffer by Town

LIFE does not get any easier for LLANRHAEADR as they suffered their heaviest Cymru Alliance defeat, 10-2 at high-flying Caernarfon Town to remain rooted to the foot of the table.

The visitors, without 10 first teamers, crumbled against the league new-boys, shipping in five goals in each half. Alan Mark Owen lead the charge with a hat-trick, with his third goal coming from a twice-taken penalty three minutes from time after Darren Powell had saved his first effort.

Darren Thomas and Lee McArdle also scored twice as the Canaries put their visitors to flight, with Graham Austin, Dion Donohue and Leigh Craven joining in the goal spree.

Llanrhaeadr's consolations came via second-half replies from Dan Kelly (55) and Carwyn Johnson (72), but there was little else to cheer.

Manager Mario Iaquinta remained philosophical after being forced to field a makeshift side, including five reserve teamers, his assistant Jamie Davies and vice chairman Mel Roberts, on a day when little went right. He even lost Matty Jones with a hamstring injury in the first half.

"With the side we had out, we knew what was coming but it was a credit to the lads who made the 100-mile round trip knowing the situation we were in," he said.

"When you concede 10 it's not great for your reputation, but we we've just got to put it behind us."

Danny Barton struck a last-minute leveller for the second week running as GUILSFIELD secured a 2-2 draw at Caersws to stretch their unbeaten run to five games.

The league's top-scorer had found the net in injury time in the previous week's draw against Flint, and was again on the mark in the dying seconds with his 10th goal of the season.

Adam Jenkins had given the Bluebirds an early lead. Jack Harris levelled on 27 minutes only for a Martyn Ziemann own goal to restore the home advantage five minutes from time.

However, the Guils were not to be denied when Barton struck in style with a fine strike from 25-yards.

Matt Burton's side had made a sluggish start and fell behind when Jenkins was given time and space to slot home from the edge of the box.

This defensive lapse stirred them in to life and they began to stretch the home rearguard with two Caersws defenders earning yellow cards in the opening half an hour.

It was the second of these bookings which led to the equaliser after Paul Grant brought down Mark Davies on the edge of the box and Harris crashed home the resulting free-kick.

The away side were playing some attractive football by now but could not get their noses in front going into half-time.

The second half continued in the same manner for the opening 10 minutes but Caersws began to fight back and imposed themselves with a series of set-pieces which Guilsfield managed to repel.

The visitors found it more and more difficult to retain possession as the Bluebirds pressed and the home efforts were rewarded when they regained the lead as Ziemann deflected a Mark Griffiths cross into his own net.

There seemed to be no way back, until the last kick of the game when Barton collected the ball 25 yards out and turned to hit a low left-footed shot into the corner of the net.

On target – Matty Williams scored for Oswestry Town

Saints cannot quite corner their advantage over Airbus

Airbus UK 1 The New Saints 1

THE New Saints were made to battle all the way before returning with a point from early leaders Airbus UK that keeps the defending champions three points off the pace in the Welsh Premier.

Chris Marriott's goal – scored direct from a corner – gave the Saints a slender half-time advantage.

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

But the Wingmakers deservedly earned parity courtesy of Chris Budrys' low strike from the edge of the box eight minutes into the second half.

Saints were not at their best, but director of football Craig Harrison hailed a determined display from the full-timers against an unbeaten Airbus outfit that has emerged as realistic title contenders.

"It was not pretty; we did not play at our best, but sometimes you have to roll up your sleeves," said the former Wingmakers manager.

"If you are going to win anything, there are times when you have to grind it out and show steely determination which I thought we did.

"Airbus are a very good team. It's a tough place to come and get a result and we knew we would come under pressure here.

"But I was pleased with the way we stood up to them and defended well.

"Maybe we were a bit lucky – we did not do enough to win, but nor did they and I think overall a draw was a fair result."

Promising

After a quiet start, TNS took a 22nd-minute lead courtesy of a defensive gaffe from the hosts as Chris Marriott's inswinging corner from the right eluded keeper James Coates at his near post.

Despite going behind, Airbus were enjoying plenty of possession and almost found a way through on 32 minutes when Mike Pearson fired against the post after a left-wing free-kick was whipped into the goalmouth.

Defender Pearson then fired over moments later from another promising position as the hosts continued to push, while skipper Ian Kearney saw his firm header turned over the bar by keeper Paul Harrison.

TNS struggled to impose themselves with chances at a premium, although Matty Williams had a low shot easily saved in one of their few efforts on goal in the first half.

Airbus maintained the momentum after the break, and were deservedly back on terms when Budrys drove a low shot past Harrison from the edge of the box after a strong run from James Owen.

The Saints were having little joy at the other end, although Alex Darlington almost unlocked the door on 61 minutes, the substitute running at the defence before slipping the ball to Mike Wilde whose low shot was blocked by Coates.

Moments later, midfielder Aeron Edwards failed to make contact with an inviting cross to the far post as the visitors started to find more room.

However, it was Airbus who should have got their noses in front with two golden chances, firstly Budrys drove his shot just wide of the left post, while 10 minutes from time Steve Jones turned his marker, but failed to get his shot on target.

With the hosts starting to tire, the Saints almost won it in injury time when he previous week's hat-trick hero Sam Finley broke towards goal only to lift his shot just over the bar.

Airbus chief Andy Preece felt his side had enough of the game to emerge with more than just a point, but was delighted with a display that showed TNS will not have it all their own way in the title race this season.

"It was a superb performance right through the team for 90 minutes," he said.

"The lads worked their socks off and gave as good as they got. No quarter was given – we put TNS under the sort of pressure that they have not had to face so far this season, but credit to them for the way they stood up to it.

"We were disappointed with the goal we conceded as they did not have to work for it, while we created the better opportunities and could have won."

It's there – The New Saints take the lead in their 1-1 draw with Airbus when a right-wing corner from Chris Marriott (out of picture) beats keeper James Coates at his near post. Picture:

Smart stuff from Cody

CODY SMART fired a last-gasp winner as Llansantffraid Village upset the formbook with a 3-2 win over Spar Mid Wales League division one high-fliers Berriew at Treflan.

Berriew looked to have earned a point when levelling in injury time, but Smart struck with virtually the last kick of the game to give the villagers a welcome three points after a tough start to the season.

Glenn Evans and Kieran Evans got the earlier goals for Llansantffraid, with the visitors responding through Rhydian Morris and then, in injury time, Elliot Jones.

Defeat saw Berriew slip to third place, three points off the pace after Carno maintained their 100 per cent record in winning 2-1 at Bow Street, their seventh success on the bounce.

New boys LLANFAIR UNITED won 2-0 at Aberaeron to move up to fourth. Chris Gethin scored twice, his first coming on 10 minutes before adding a second four minutes into the second period from the penalty spot after one of the hosts had handled in the box.

FOUR CROSSES swept aside struggling Dolgellau 10-0 with Andrew Webb and Chris Aitken both scoring twice while Jamie Evans, Owain Willcock, Gareth Jones, Dylan Ellis and Alex Gunn also found the net along with an own goal.

WATERLOO ROVERS, in sixth place, kept the pressure on the leading pack with a comfortable 5-1 win at Aberystwyth University. After being level 1-1 at half-time, Rovers struck four times in the second period as the students faded in their first outing of the season.

WELSHPOOL TOWN found unbeaten Llandrindod Wells too hot to handle as they succumbed 4-1 to their second-placed visitors at Maesydre, Gareth Watkins getting the reply for the 12th-placed hosts.

In division two, Kerry remain in the lower reaches after crashing 9-0 at high-flying Rhosgoch who are two points clear at the top.

Foxes on the victory scent

CROSS FOXES maintained their slender one-point lead at the top of the Roche North Shropshire Sunday League with a hard-fought 3-2 win at The Oak Inn.

Mike Lloyd gave the Foxes a third-minute lead when he headed in a Ben Pierpoint corner at the far post, and Matthew Hardy made it 2-0 when Pierpoint played him in.

But Kyle Wilson pulled one back for The Oak at the start of the second half when he scored direct from a corner-kick, and then levelled on 50 minutes with a low shot from 20 yards.

Foxes, however, bagged the winner in the 65th minute. Leigh Waddingham's pass found Carl Harris, whose shot was saved – but the defensive clearance fell to Pierpoint who fired home.

Karl Bailey scored five times as ATHLETICO MARKET stormed back to sweep aside LODGE INN 7-1 after trailing to Tom Nash's opener.

Bailey opened his account on 16 minutes to level with a thunderous shot in off the bar, and then gave The Market a 2-1 lead with a low shot from the edge of the box.

Will Gilbert made it 3-1 right on the stroke of half-time with a good turn and shot before Josh Sumner's long-range free-kick increased the margin after the break.

Bailey then completed his hat-trick, before scoring twice more to seal the win.

High-flying MALPAS edged out TAVERN 3-2, with Andy Morris cancelling out Scott Bright's opener.

Ryan Stevenson put Malpas 2-1 ahead with Morris grabbing his second to make it 3-1. Bright scored his second from the penalty spot, but Malpas hung on to move up to second.

SUNDAY FIXTURES

Shropshire Sunday Challenge Cup Round One: Athletico Market v Cross Foxes, The Keys v Dudleston Heath, Tavern v Lodge Inn.

Brace for Ben as the Tigers are mauled

FC OSWESTRY TOWN maintained their unbeaten campaign as they progressed to the second round of the Shropshire Junior Cup with a 3-0 win at high-flying Market Drayton Tigers, ***writes JOHN BRIDGWATER.***

Town started brightly and soon created chances through Ben Williams and Graham Dyke, but it was midfielder Graeme Kirkham who almost broke the deadlock.

First, his rocket shot rattled the crossbar, and just before the break he pinched the ball only to spoon his shot over the bar.

The second half saw Town push for a breakthrough and it came on 50 minutes when the prolific Williams nodded home at the far post from a Carl Tomkins cross.

Victory

Kirkham soon made up for his first-half miss when his corner was headed home by Matty Williams.

Victory was confirmed when Ben Williams latched on to keeper Broc Dawson's kick and rounded the home keeper, coolly slotting the ball home for his second of the game.

Manager Nick Maguire was again thrilled with the Town performance and now looks forward eagerly to next week's home game when Town entertain Clee Hill at the Venue Park Hall (3pm).

OSWESTRY VILLA made an early exit, going out 4-2 on penalties after their first-round tie with Shawbury United reserves ended 2-2 following extra time, while TREFONEN crashed out of the competition 8-0 at Wroxeter Rovers.

Saints take positives from draw

ST MARTINS failed to climb off the foot of the West Midlands League division one despite turning in one of their best displays of the season to emerge with a 0-0 draw at Old Stone Alleynians.

The Saints had enough chances to have come away with three points, but could take heart from their performance that was buoyed by the return of Jamie Williams and Sammy Thomas in midfield.

Williams brought a smart save from the keeper with a 20-yard strike in the first half while Saints continued to carve openings in the second period with Kieran Barry having two opportunities and Karl Bailey forcing a save from the keeper.

Stone had plenty of possession late on, but rarely threatened the visitors' defence in a heartening showing from the Saints.

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OSWESTRY Sports Desk 01952 241473 www.oswestrychronicle.com

Emotional medal win for Wayne in Spain

Wayne Griffiths won the European bowls silver

WELSHPOOL bowler Wayne Griffiths has dedicated his European silver medal to his late father Terry, who died just over a month ago.

Griffiths and partner Roger Jones of Monmouth missed out on gold at the European Bowls Championship in Alicante last Friday, losing by the narrowest of margins to Scotland.

The Wales elite team pair had led the field for most of the week only to be pipped on the final day by the Scots at the championships held at Emerald Isle and San Miguel Bowls Clubs in Alicante.

The Welshpool Town Bowling Club man nearly withdrew from the event following the death from cancer of his father Terry, himself a keen bowler.

"It was a tough decision and the finals were very emotional for me," said Wayne. "I know Dad would have wanted me to carry on and represent my country and I want to dedicate and treasure my medal in his memory.

"I have been in some big competitions but this was the biggest and to come away with silver was a brilliant achievement. Dad would have been so proud.

"It went right down to the wire. We had been neck and neck with Scotland all week and it was all on the final game with Scotland winning by a bigger margin to clinch the gold medals by just two points."

Champion tester for hockey men

AFTER a winning start to their campaign, Oswestry's hockey players face a stiff test when they welcome defending champions Dysynni on Sunday (1pm).

The border side, now playing in the North Wales League this season, started well with a dominant 3-0 home win over Bangor University.

This weekend, they play their first match at Oswestry School.

OSWESTRY Ladies suffered their second defeat since stepping up to the Cheshire Ladies League division two when being edged out 1-0 at home to Golborne.

They now look to bounce back in Saturday's testing trip to fourth placed Deeside Ramblers II.

Crosses out to climb table

FOUR CROSSES will be out to make up ground on the leading pack in the Spar Mid Wales League division one when they host Montgomery on Saturday.

Nick Popyk's side went goal crazy last week when they hammered rock bottom Dolgellau 10-0, a victory that lifted themselves up to seventh place - with games in hand on several of the sides above them.

It was a particularly memorable day for goalkeeper Alex Gunn who finished with a clean sheet, two assists and his side's last goal of the game after being replaced between the posts by Neil Prescott for the last 25 minutes

They never looked back after Andrew Webb's inswinging corner evaded everyone to find the net, Webb finishing with two goals but also a tight hamstring. After being 3-0 up at half time, the floodgates opened in the second period with seven more goals.

WELSHPOOL TOWN, who suffered a 4-1 loss at home to 10-man Llandrindod Wells, bid to bounce back when they head to Bow Street, while **WATERLOO ROVERS** aim to consolidate their place among the leading pack at home to Builth Wells.

Rovers are now three points clear in sixth spot after last week's 5-1 win at Aberystwyth University after scoring four times in the second half. Steve Laws fired a hat-trick, with Barry Haralambous and Chris Proctor also on target.

DYFFRYN BANW visit Aberystwyth University this Saturday, and will be hoping to see off students who have only just started the season. It has been a tough start for Banw who are still chasing their first win.

Morda merrier – Shaheen Miah who created three first half goals and Scott Graham who claimed two goals in Morda's nine goal thrashing of AFC Bridgnorth Res. Report – see page 55

Mario is hoping for some cup cheer

SHELLSHOCKED Llanrhaeadr take a break from their Huws Gray Cymru Alliance woes when they visit Llandudno in the first round of the Welsh Cup on Saturday, ***writes JOHN BRIDGWATER.***

It has been a tough few weeks for the villagers who, forced to field a makeshift side, crashed 10-2 at Caernarfon last week to remain adrift at the foot of the table.

"With the side we had out, we knew what was coming, but it was a credit to the lads who made the 100-mile round trip knowing the situation was in," said manager Mario Iaquinta who was forced to field five reserve teamers, as well as assistant Jamie Davies and vice chairman Mel Roberts in his squad.

"In the last few weeks we had six or seven missing due to injuries, suspension and people being unavailable, and last Saturday the number had got to 10.

"It was a horrendous situation, but for the standing of the club, we decided to play the game.

Return

"When you concede 10 goals, it's not great for the reputation, but we've now got players back, so we have to put the result behind us, and get back to how we were doing at the start of the season."

George Hughes is back from suspension for this weekend's trip to Llandudno, while Rob Fox, Ben White, Mark Griffiths and Matt Evans are among those who could return.

In-form **LLANFAIR UNITED** bid to maintain their flying start when they host Welsh Alliance side Gwalchmai in the first round.

Rhys Stephens' men go into the game in good heart after last weekend's 2-0 win at Aberaeron kept the pressure on the Spar Mid Wales League leaders.

Elsewhere, **GUILSFIELD** bid to stretch their unbeaten run to six games when they host Machynlleth, while **BERRIEW** visit Spar rivals Tywyn Bryncrug.

DARLINGTON TIPS TNS FOR THE TITLE

HEAD coach Carl Darlington believes The New Saints have what it takes to lift another Welsh Premier crown this season – despite coming under early pressure from Airbus UK.

The Saints have won the title for the last two years, but are under no illusions they face a serious rival in the Wingmakers who underlined their credentials in last Saturday's 1-1 draw between the sides.

That shaky draw left the defending champions three points adrift of high flying Airbus, and seeking an improved display when they head to newly promoted Rhyl on Saturday.

by John Bridgwater

But Darlington insisted it was still early days, and pointed to the fact that the Saints are far better off this season that they were this time last year as they chase a third title on the trot.

"A lot was made of last week's game as it was the league's two top teams, but we're still only eight games into the season and it's very early days," he said.

Points

"This year we felt that Airbus would be one of the sides up there challenging, and we've certainly got to keep an eye on them. They've got strong squad, a good management team, and they'll be there or thereabouts, but we need to concentrate on ourselves.

"Both sides are going to drop points between now and the end of last season, but it will come down to how we play and the fact that we've still got to play them twice at home."

He added: "We were not ourselves last week, but our aim before the game was that didn't lose. Last year we lost 2-1 there, so we're still in a better position than this stage season.

"We didn't play well, we didn't get the ball down and pass like we have been doing. We were not brave on the ball and can certainly play a lot better."

The draw at least stretched TNS' unbeaten run to six game (four wins and two draws) as they head for another tricky assignment at newcomers Rhyl who have made a solid start.

The teams last met in the league back in April 2010, with the Saints edging a 2-1 win. In the games before that at Belle Vue, there has been little to choose between the sides with six wins apiece and three draws.

■ The New Saints and College partners at Walford and North Shropshire College have signed a new three year agreement aimed at further enhancing their successful football Scholarship.

Recruitment to the 2014/15 TNS Football Scholarship is already under way with an Oswestry Campus Open Event on Thursday 17 October from 5.30pm-8pm.

COBRA player makes mark with Scotland

JUST a few months after guiding COBRA to promotion, rugby prospect Rhodri Mayor is making a name for himself after signing for Sale - and landing national recognition in Scotland.

The 18-year-old back, who is at university in Manchester, earned a two-year contract with Sale and his potential was quickly spotted as he was called up for a three day camp for the Scotland under-20 side.

Mayor, who plays at full back or on the wing, was a part of the successful COBRA side that gained promotion from the Welsh League division two (north) last season as well as winning the North Wales Cup.

Born in Lanarkshire, his started playing for COBRA when his family moved to Llanfyllin, and he soon made his mark to represent his county at junior level and also joined the North and Mid Wales regional set-up, the Rygbi Gogledd Cymru.

Rhys selected for Wales golf squad

Oswestry School's Rhys Edkins is part of the Welsh National golf squad

A PUPIL from a north Shropshire school has received county and national golf honours.

Rhys Edkins (Year 9) at Oswestry School has continued to make his mark on the junior golf scene, qualifying for the Shropshire and Hereford county team and has won a selection of domestic honours including the Montgomeryshire junior order of merit.

Rhys was one of 50 players invited to the Welsh Squad assessment days at Clays GC and is now part of the national squad.

Rhys said "I am pleased to have been selected and am committed to daily drills, fortnightly coaching and a new diet!"

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Published by the Oswestry & Border Chronicle, Oswestry, and printed by Shropshire Newspapers Ltd, Telford. Registered at the PO as a newspaper. Price when sold 50p.